DC
KAMANDI
NEW YORK UNDER THE SEA! SUBWAYS RUN BY GIANT RATS! SEE IT AND MORE--IN THE WORLD OF
KAMANDI
20¢
NO. 2
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30566
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KAMANDI IN "The YEAR OF THE RAT"

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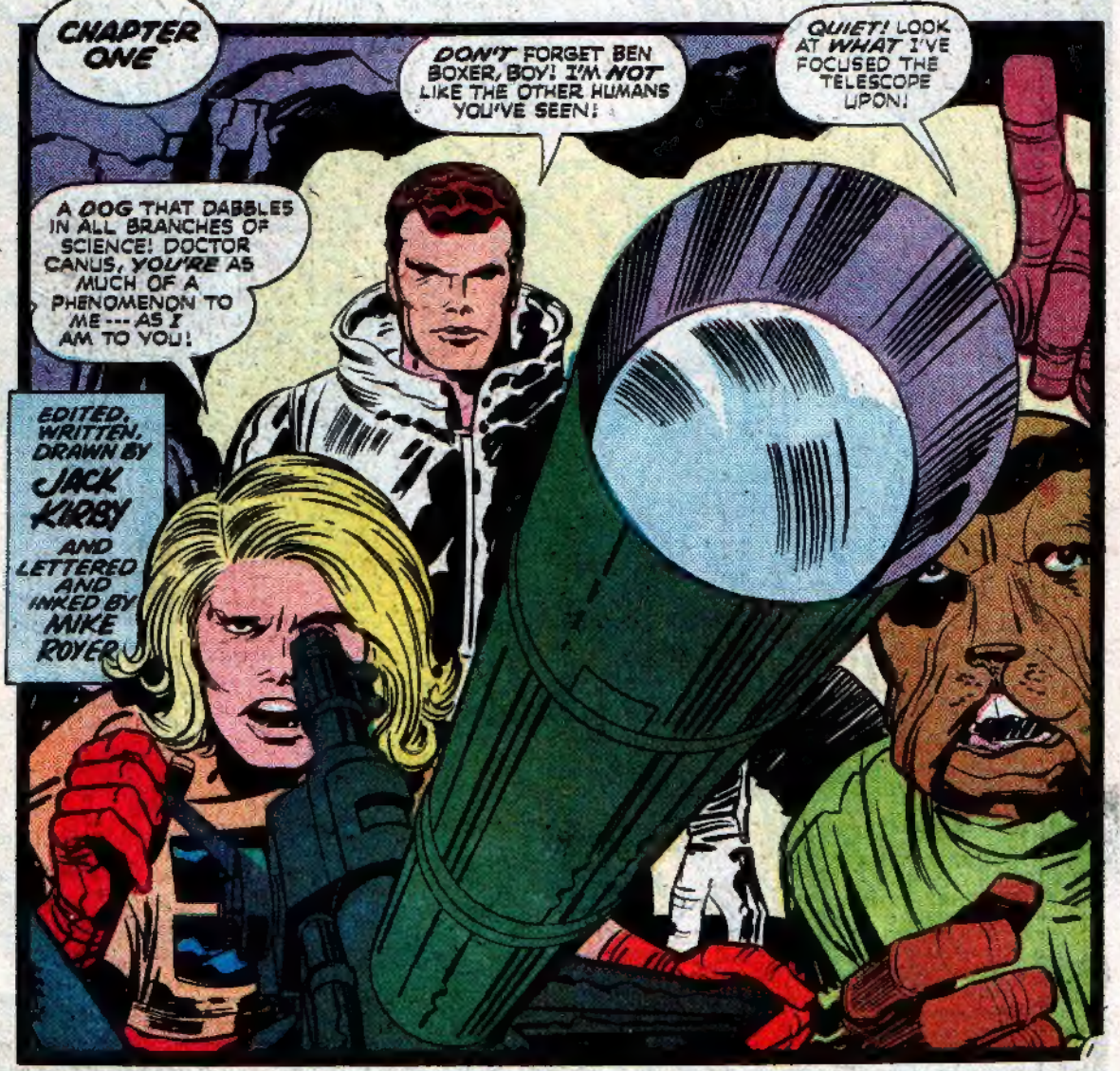
THE WORLD OF *KAMANDI* IS *EARTH A.D.* (AFTER DISASTER!) SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST, A NATURAL CATASTROPHE OF CATACLYSMIC PROPORTION HAD EXPOSED THE PLANET TO AN UNKNOWN PERIOD OF INTENSE RADIATION! WHEN KAMANDI, THE *LAST* OF THE UNDERGROUND BUNKER PEOPLE, LEFT FOR THE SURFACE, HE FOUND A CHANGED WORLD---! BEASTS HAD BECOME AS MEN---! MEN HAD SLIPPED TO THE ROLES OF LOWER ORDER ANIMALS! AND KAMANDI HAD SHARED THEIR DESPAIRING LOT--- UNTIL A LUCKY ENCOUNTER WITH NEW FRIENDS! HE'LL NEED THEM IN THE

YEAR OF THE RAT!


CHAPTER ONE
DON'T FORGET BEN BOXER, BOY! I'M NOT LIKE THE OTHER HUMANS YOU'VE SEEN!
QUIET! LOOK AT WHAT I'VE FOCUSED THE TELESCOPE UPON!
A DOG THAT DABBLES IN ALL BRANCHES OF SCIENCE! DOCTOR CANUS, YOU'RE AS MUCH OF A PHENOMENON TO ME --- AS I AM TO YOU!
EDITED, WRITTEN, DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY AND LETTERED AND INKED BY MIKE ROYER

KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH. Vol. 1, No. 2, Dec.-Jan., 1972-73. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Jack Kirby, Editor, Sol Harrison, Production Manager, Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwartz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright ©1972 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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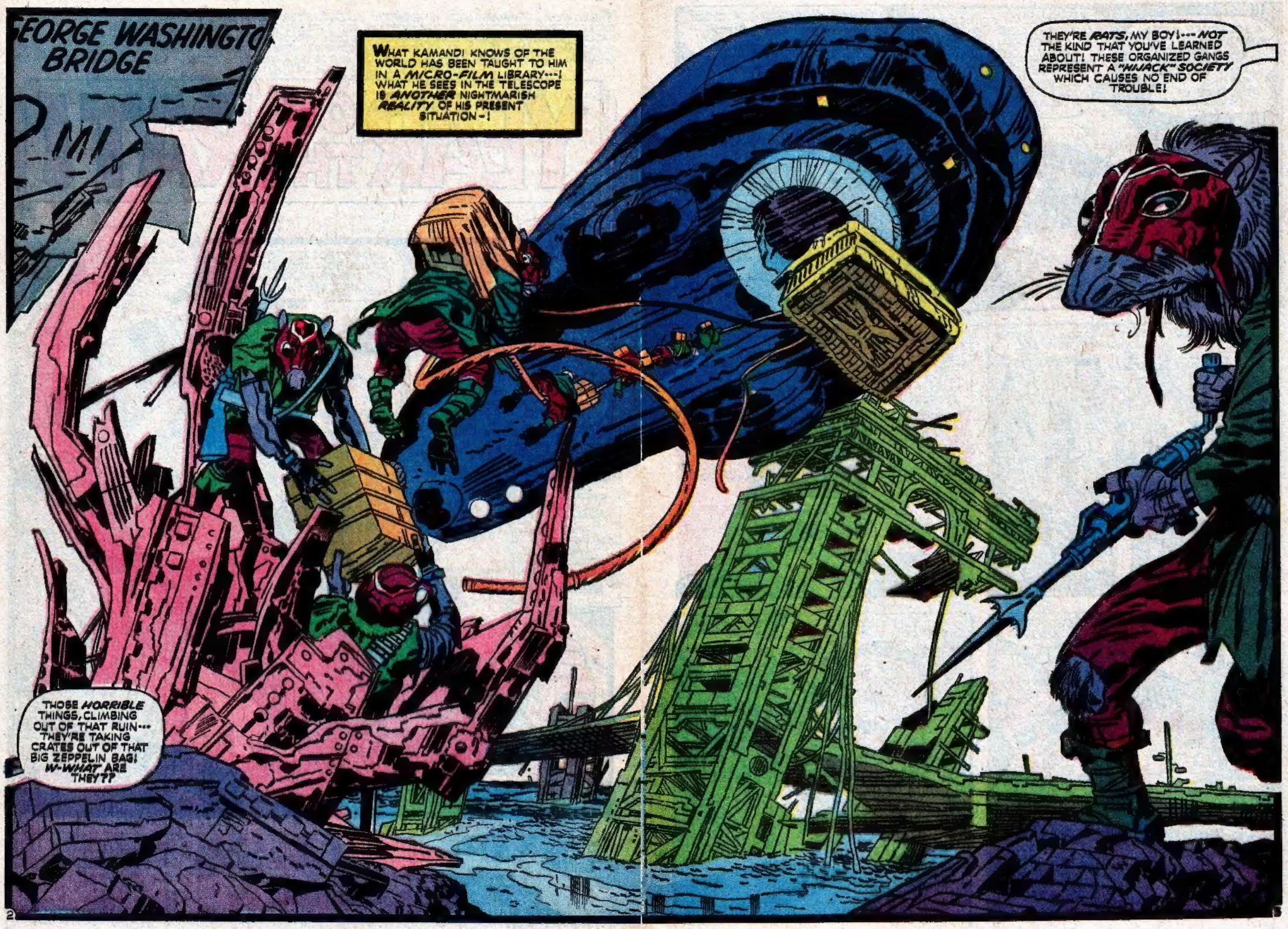
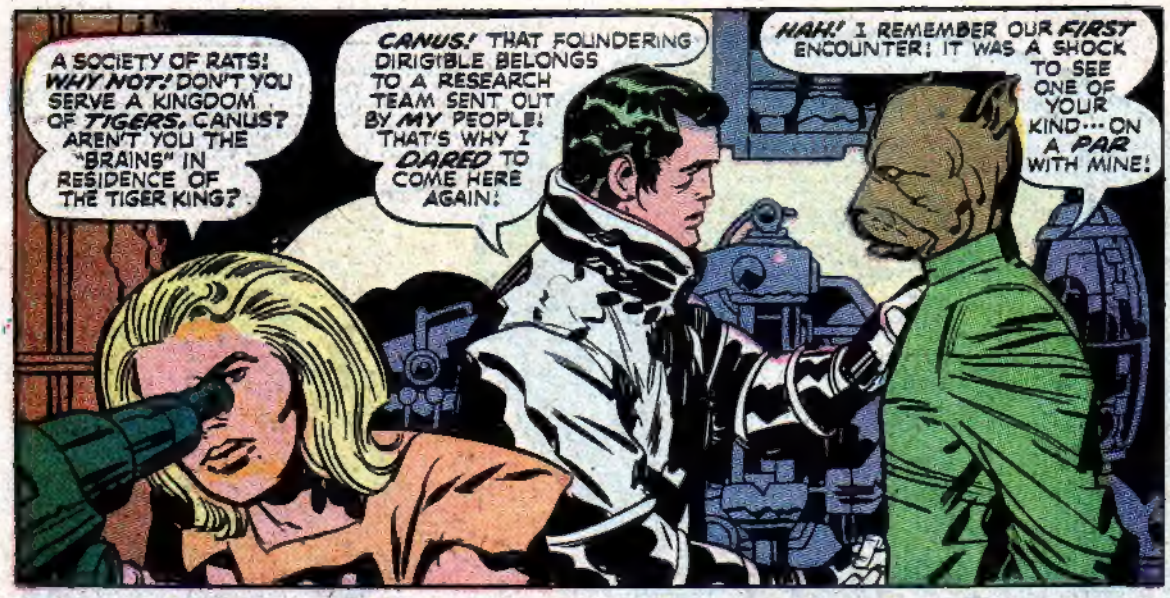
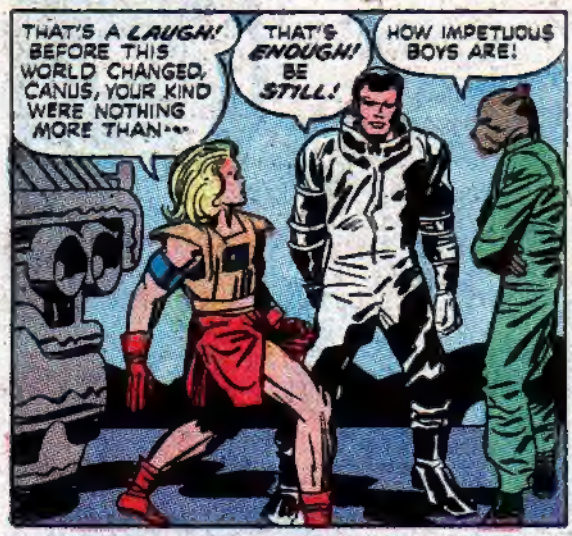
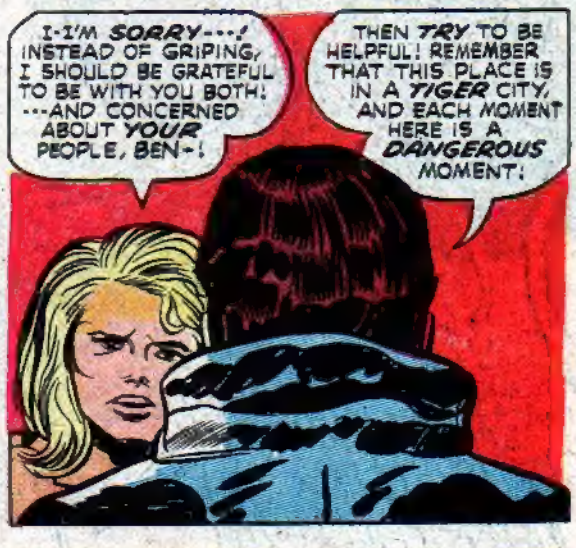

GEORGE WASHINGTO
BRIDGE
WHAT KAMANDI KNOWS OF THE WORLD HAS BEEN TAUGHT TO HIM IN A MICRO-FILM LIBRARY---! WHAT HE SEES IN THE TELESCOPE IS ANOTHER NIGHTMARISH REALITY OF HIS PRESENT SITUATION-!
THEY'RE RATS, MY BOY!--- NOT THE KIND THAT YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT! THESE ORGANIZED GANGS REPRESENT A "NIJACK" SOCIETY WHICH CAUSES NO END OF TROUBLE!
THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS, CLIMBING OUT OF THAT RUIN--- THEY'RE TAKING CRATES OUT OF THAT BIG ZEPPELIN BAG! W-WHAT ARE THEY??


A SOCIETY OF RATS! WHY NOT? DON'T YOU SERVE A KINGDOM OF TIGERS, CANUS? AREN'T YOU THE "BRAINS" IN RESIDENCE OF THE TIGER KING?
CANUS! THAT FOUNDERING DIRIGIBLE BELONGS TO A RESEARCH TEAM SENT OUT BY MY PEOPLE! THAT'S WHY I DARED TO COME HERE AGAIN!
HAH! I REMEMBER OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER! IT WAS A SHOCK TO SEE ONE OF YOUR KIND··· ON A PAR WITH MINE!


THAT'S A LAUGH! BEFORE THIS WORLD CHANGED, CANUS, YOUR KIND WERE NOTHING MORE THAN···
THAT'S ENOUGH! BE STILL!
HOW IMPETUOUS BOYS ARE!


I-I'M SORRY···! INSTEAD OF GRIPING, I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO BE WITH YOU BOTH! ···AND CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR PEOPLE, BEN-!
THEN TRY TO BE HELPFUL! REMEMBER THAT THIS PLACE IS IN A TIGER CITY, AND EACH MOMENT HERE IS A DANGEROUS MOMENT!

CANUS! WHY ARE THESE ANIMALS RUNNING ABOUT LOOSE?
BEN! LOOK OUT!
WHAP!
THEN-!

AND THIS SNAPPING, SNARLING LITTLE MONSTER···! HE SHOULD BE IN A CAGE!
PUT HIM DOWN! YOU'RE FRIGHTENING HIM!

SORRY, CANUS! I KNOW YOUR STATUS IN THIS CITY--- BUT THESE TWO GO WITH US!
SEE HERE! THESE ARE VALUABLE ANIMALS! I NEED THEM FOR IMPORTANT EXPERIMENTS!
NO DEAL! WE'RE HAULING 'EM IN FOR REGISTRATION! THAT'S A CITY ORDINANCE!
THE NEXT MOMENT, THE LABORATORY OF DOCTOR CANUS IS SWARMING WITH TIGERS---
LOOK AT THE WRAPS ON THIS HUSKY! ISN'T HE THE PAMPERED LITTLE DANDY! HE'S TOUGHER THAN HE LOOKS, THOUGH!
YEAH!---A FIGHTER, ALL RIGHT! GET THOSE ROPES ON HIM-!
THEY'RE UNDER CONTROL! SAY!--- WHAT'S THIS GADGET HE'S WEARING, CANUS!?
KEEP YOUR PAWS OFF THAT, YOU FOOL! IF YOU PRESS IT, YOU'RE IN FOR A RUDE SURPRISE!

BUT THE "GADGET" IS PRESSED! AND, THE RESULT IS A VIOLENT, RADIANT FLARE-UP WHICH HITS THE TIGERS LIKE A HAMMERING SHOCK-WAVE!
AAAA!
BRAAAAMM!
LOOK! THE ANIMAL'S CHANGING! HIS HIDE IS TURNING INTO STEEL!
SHOOT! SHOOT!!
HE CAN'T BE HURT! OUR SHOTS ARE BOUNCING OFF HIM LIKE PING-PONG BALLS!
CANUS HAS DONE THIS WITH HIS BLASTED EXPERIMENTS!
POW
POW!
GET REINFORCEMENTS! I'LL TRY AND HOLD HIM OFF!
DO ANYTHING ---BUT DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!
SEN HAS BECOME AN ARMORED TANK! NOTHING STOPS HIM-!
CRASH!

WHAT DOES THIS CHAMPION HAVE IN COMMON...WITH YOU?

DAVE DRAPER: "Mr. America - Mr. Universe" A Weider Pupil

See Dave's magnificent physique that won him a co-starring role in the movie "Don't Make Waves."

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AND SO THE SECRET OF BEN BOXER IS *REVEALED!* LIKE ALL LIFE IN THIS NEW WORLD, HE REVEALS YET *ANOTHER* ROAD TAKEN BY A LIVING ORGANISM TO SURVIVE THE LINGERING PERIOD OF RADIATION! KAMANDI IS AWE-STRUCK AT THE IMMENSE POWER WIELDED BY THAT BODY OF UNGUESSABLE STRENGTH! ESCAPE IS NOW POSSIBLE! ··· BUT ESCAPE TO WHERE-? IT COULD BE ···

A SHORT DAY'S JOURNEY INTO DEATH!!

CHAPTER TWO

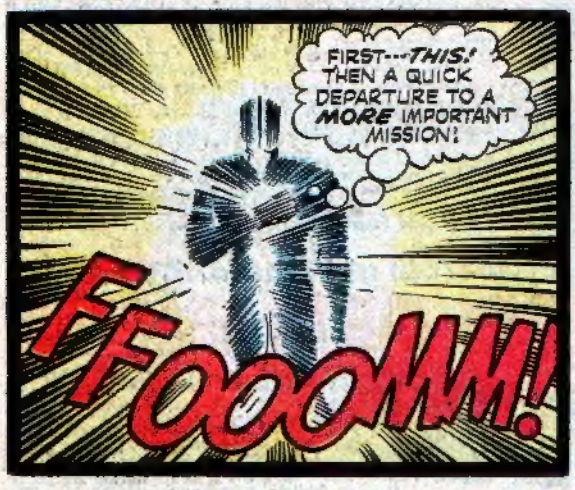
WHERE ARE THOSE REINFORCEMENTS?! WE MAY BE *DEAD* BEFORE THEY GET HERE!

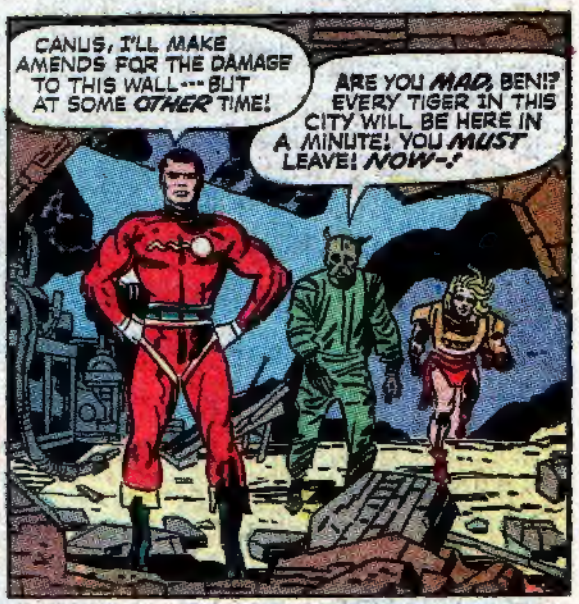
THEN, WITH AN *EFFORTLESS* HEAVE, BEN FLINGS THE TIGERS THROUGH THE WALL OF DOCTOR CANUS' LABORATORY!!

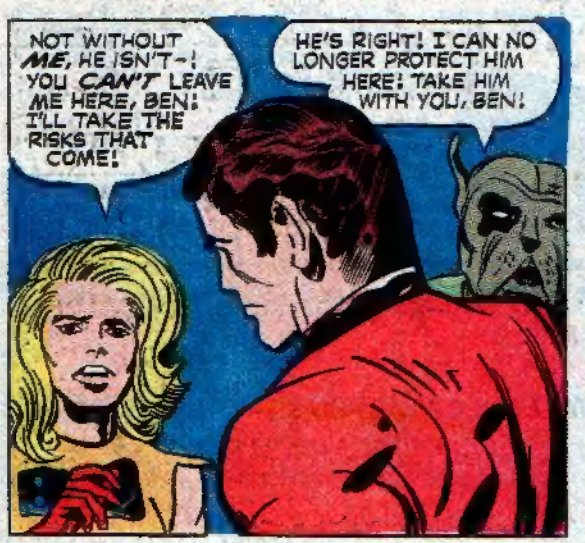
KARAASHH!

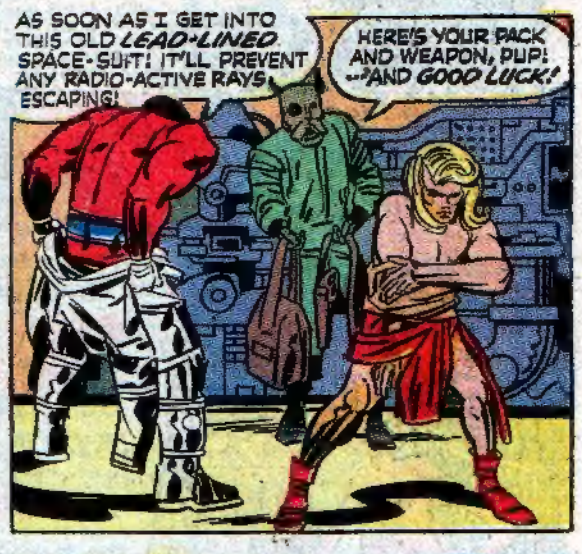
I *HATE* TO DO THIS··· BUT I *CAN'T* WASTE TIME WAITING FOR THEIR *RESCUE SQUAD* TO ARRIVE!

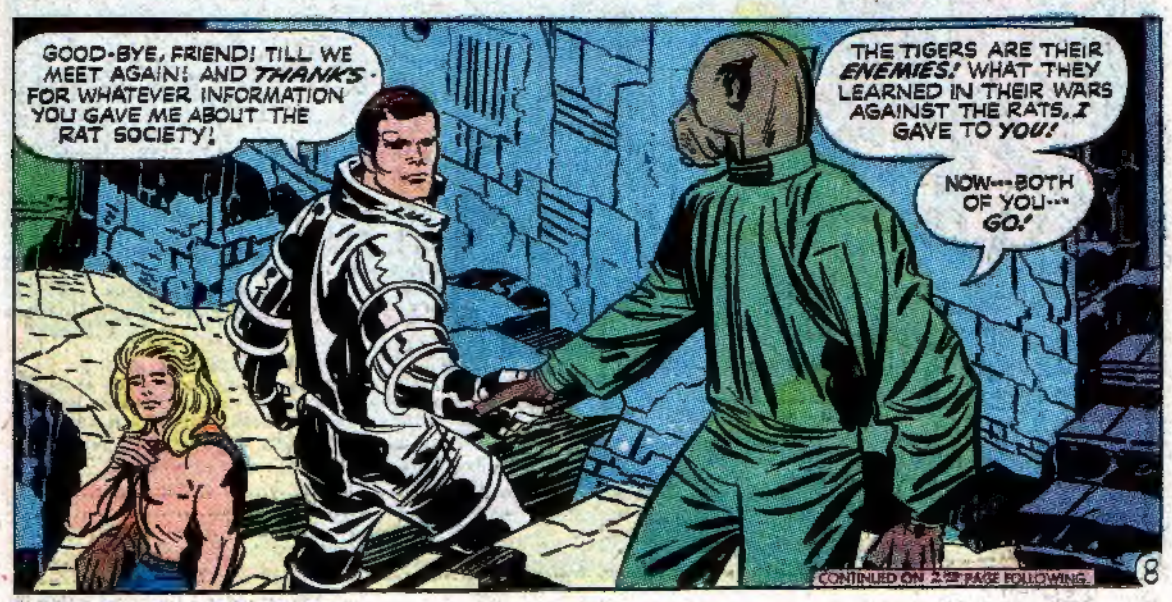
BEN QUICKLY PRESSES THE CIRCULAR COVER ABOVE HIS *CYCLO-HEART!*---THE *NATURAL* ORGAN WHICH HAS EVOLVED INTO A *FISSION CHAMBER* TO CHANGE THE ATOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE BODY, IN ORDER TO *PROTECT* IT FROM A RADIOACTIVE ATMOSPHERE!




CANUS, I'LL MAKE AMENDS FOR THE DAMAGE TO THIS WALL---BUT AT SOME *OTHER* TIME!
ARE YOU *MAD*, BEN!? EVERY TIGER IN THIS CITY WILL BE HERE IN A MINUTE! YOU *MUST* LEAVE! *NOW*--!


NOT WITHOUT *ME*, HE ISN'T--! YOU *CAN'T* LEAVE *ME* HERE, BEN! I'LL TAKE THE RISKS THAT COME!
HE'S RIGHT! I CAN NO LONGER PROTECT HIM HERE! TAKE HIM WITH YOU, BEN!


AS SOON AS I GET INTO THIS OLD *LEAD-LINED* SPACE-SUIT! IT'LL PREVENT ANY RADIO-ACTIVE RAYS ESCAPING!
HERE'S YOUR PACK AND WEAPON, PUP! --AND *GOOD LUCK!*


GOOD-BYE, FRIEND! TILL WE MEET AGAIN! AND *THANKS* FOR WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU GAVE ME ABOUT THE RAT SOCIETY!
THE TIGERS ARE THEIR *ENEMIES!* WHAT THEY LEARNED IN THEIR WARS AGAINST THE RATS, I GAVE TO *YOU!*
NOW---BOTH OF YOU--- *GO!*

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

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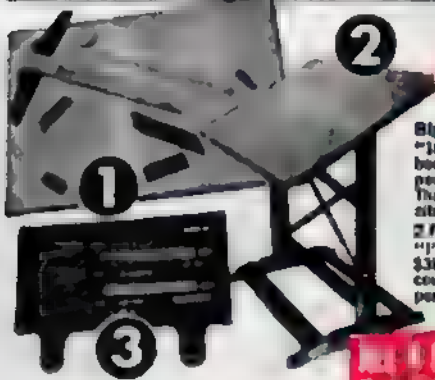

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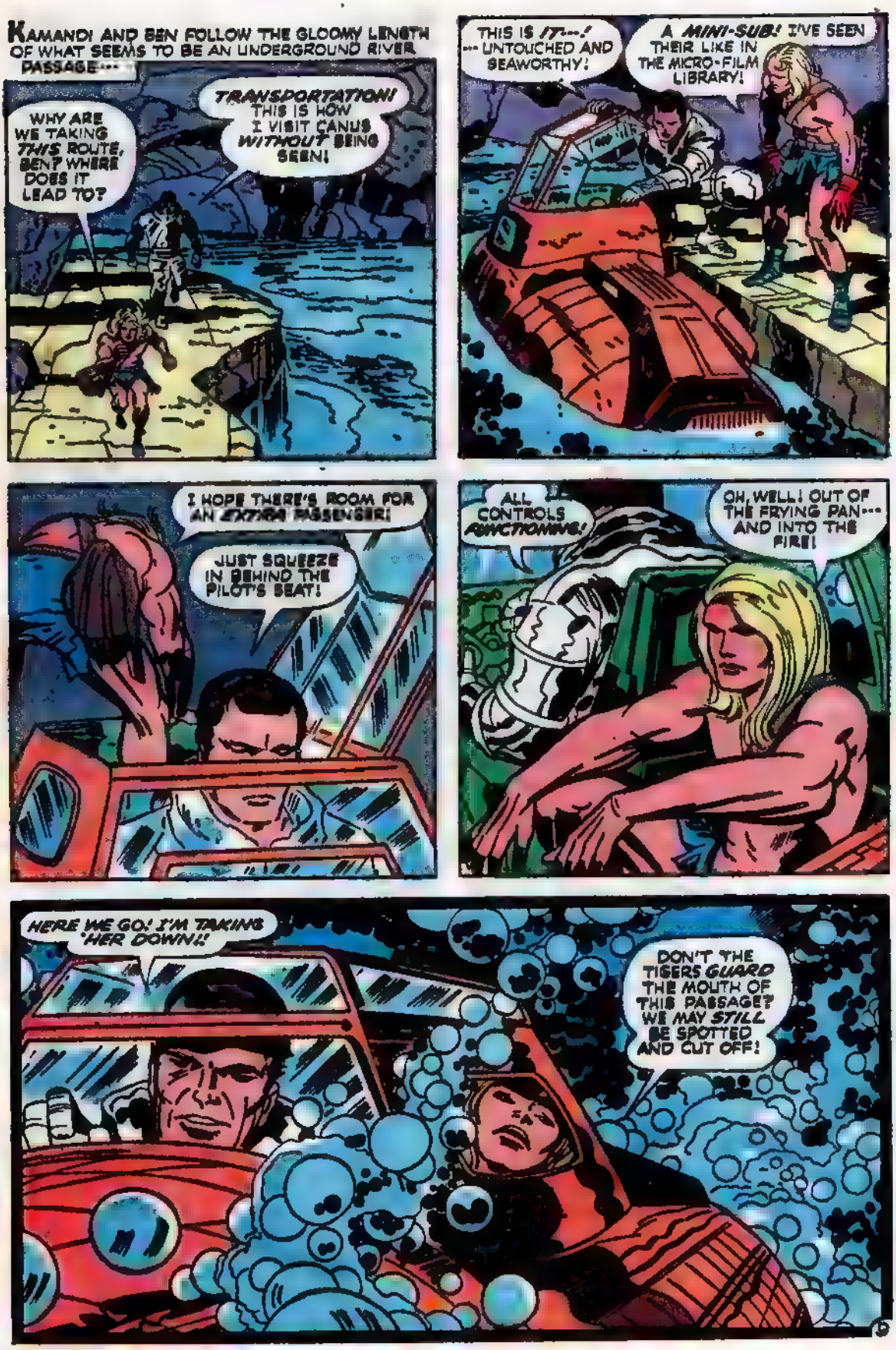
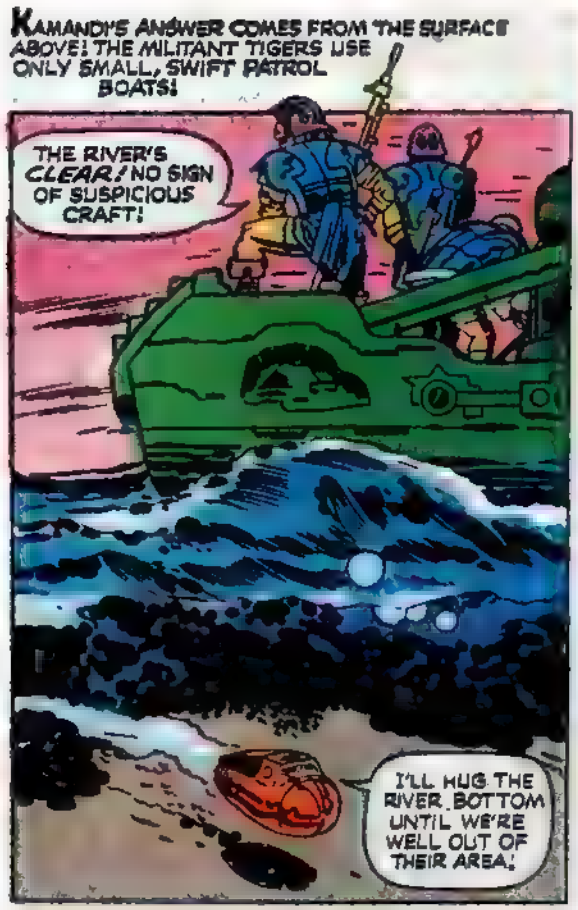
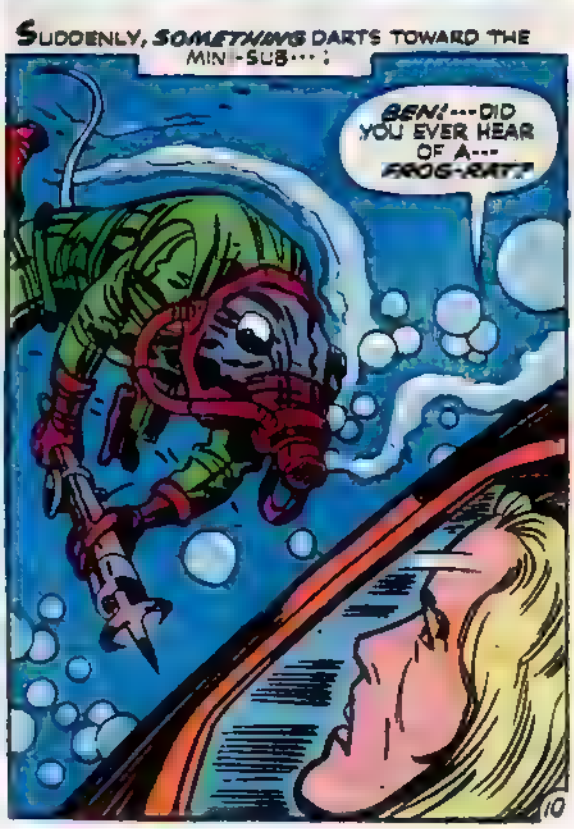
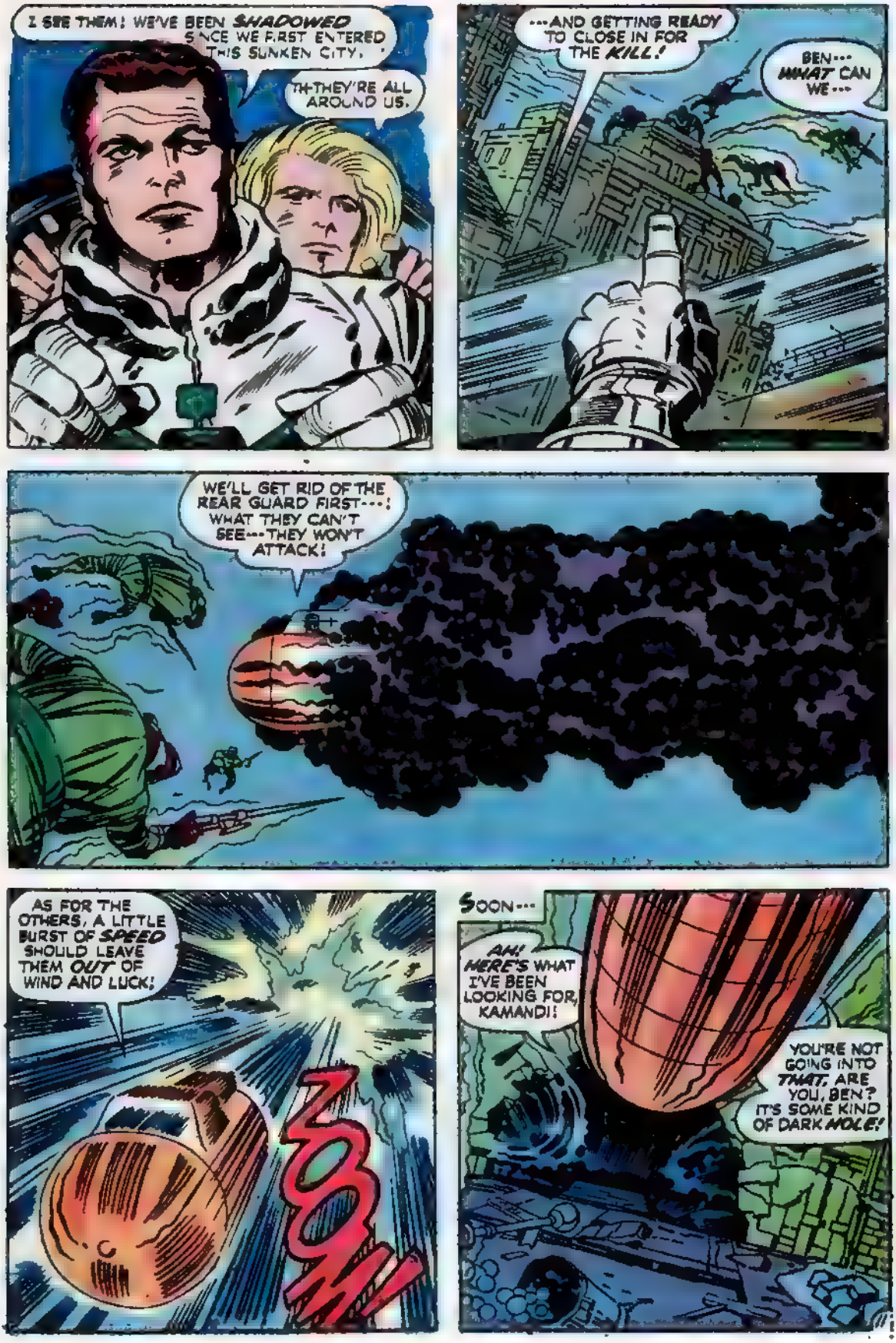

KAMANDI AND BEN FOLLOW THE GLOOMY LENGTH OF WHAT SEEMS TO BE AN UNDERGROUND RIVER PASSAGE...
WHY ARE WE TAKING THIS ROUTE, BEN? WHERE DOES IT LEAD TO?
TRANSPORTATION! THIS IS HOW I VISIT CANUS WITHOUT BEING SEEN!
THIS IS IT--! ...UNTOUCHED AND SEAWORTHY!
A MINI-SUB! I'VE SEEN THEIR LIKE IN THE MICRO-FILM LIBRARY!
I HOPE THERE'S ROOM FOR AN EXTRA PASSENGER!
JUST SQUEEZE IN BEHIND THE PILOT'S SEAT!
ALL CONTROLS AWCTIONING!
OH, WELL! OUT OF THE FRYING PAN... AND INTO THE FIRE!
HERE WE GO! I'M TAKING 'HER DOWN!!
DON'T THE TIGERS GUARD THE MOUTH OF THIS PASSAGE? WE MAY STILL BE SPOTTED AND CUT OFF!


KAMANDI'S ANSWER COMES FROM THE SURFACE ABOVE! THE MILITANT TIGERS USE ONLY SMALL, SWIFT PATROL BOATS!
THE RIVER'S CLEAR! NO SIGN OF SUSPICIOUS CRAFT!
I'LL HUG THE RIVER BOTTOM UNTIL WE'RE WELL OUT OF THEIR AREA!

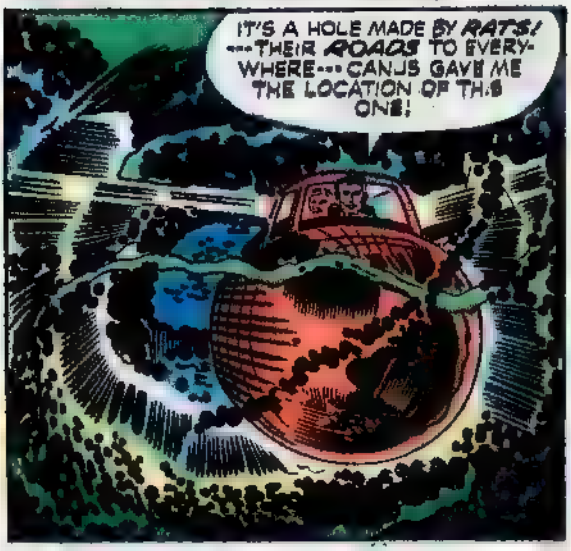
WHAT WAS ONCE THE HUDSON RIVER IS NOW A VAST UNDERWATER GRAVE-YARD!---LITTERED WITH ROTTING HULKS WHICH THRUST FROM THE MUCK LIKE AN ARMY OF TOMBSTONES!
WHAT A SIGHT! THEY MUST HAVE ALL BEEN SUNK WITH ONE BLOW!
CIRCLE LINE...

THEN, ON THROUGH THE GREEN, GHOST-LIKE SKY-SCRAPER CANYONS OF NEW YORK---SILENT AND EMPTY OF MULTITUDES---WHERE EVEN MEMORIES HAVE VANISHED FROM THE DARK WINDOWS!

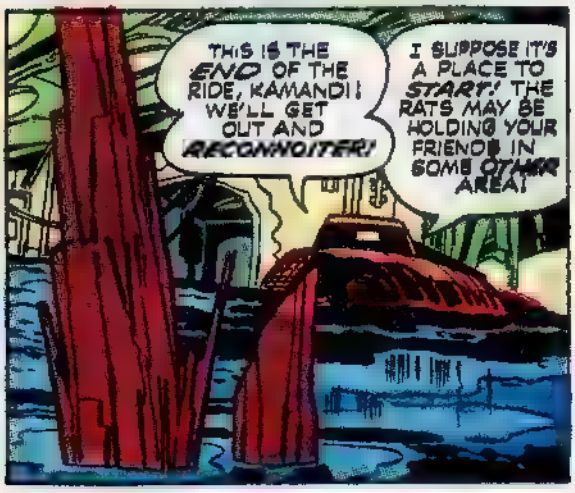

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING DARTS TOWARD THE MINI-SUB···!
BEN!---DID YOU EVER HEAR OF A--- FROG-RAT?
10

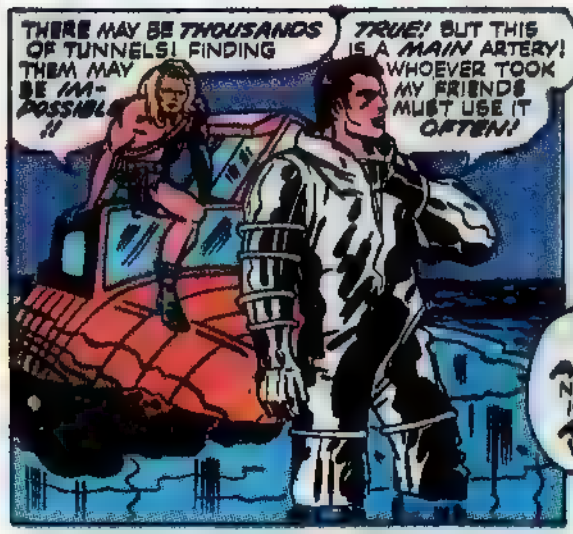

I SEE THEM! WE'VE BEEN SHADOWED SINCE WE FIRST ENTERED THIS SUNKEN CITY.
TH-THEY'RE ALL AROUND US.
...AND GETTING READY TO CLOSE IN FOR THE KILL!
BEN... WHAT CAN WE...
WE'LL GET RID OF THE REAR GUARD FIRST...! WHAT THEY CAN'T SEE...THEY WON'T ATTACK!
AS FOR THE OTHERS, A LITTLE BURST OF SPEED SHOULD LEAVE THEM OUT OF WIND AND LUCK!
ZOOM
SOON...
AH! HERE'S WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR, KAMANDI!
YOU'RE NOT GOING INTO THAT, ARE YOU, BEN? IT'S SOME KIND OF DARK MOLE!

WITHOUT HESITATION, BEN BOXER MANEUVERS THE M.N.-SUB INTO THE SINISTER APERTURE!

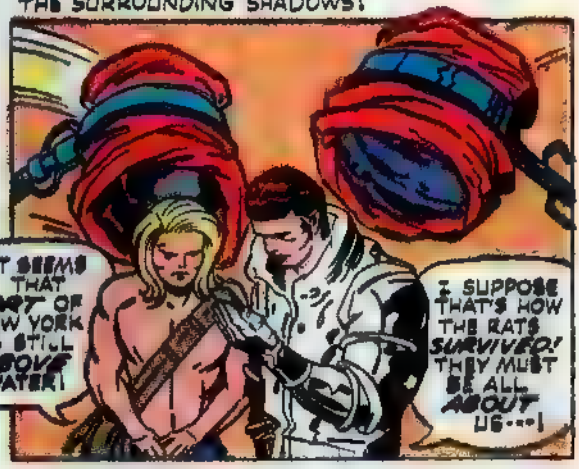


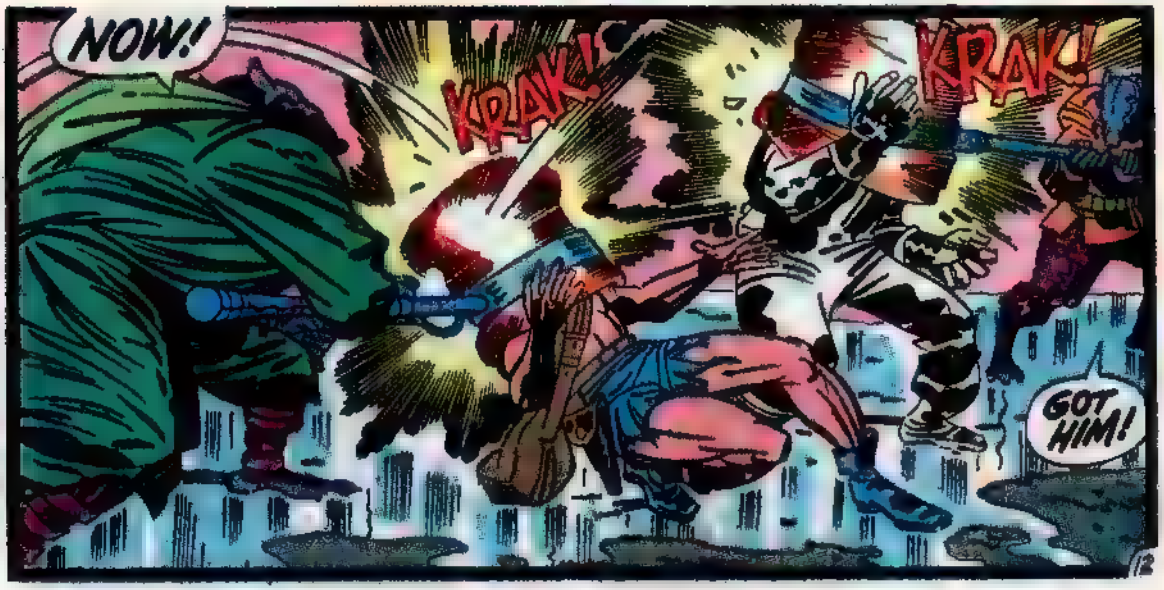
THE UNDERWATER BURROW SUDDENLY TILTS UPWARD — AND THE MINI-SUB FOLLOWS IT'S CONTOUR UNTIL IT BREAKS TO THE SURFACE IN A HUGE, CAVERN-LIKE ROOM!

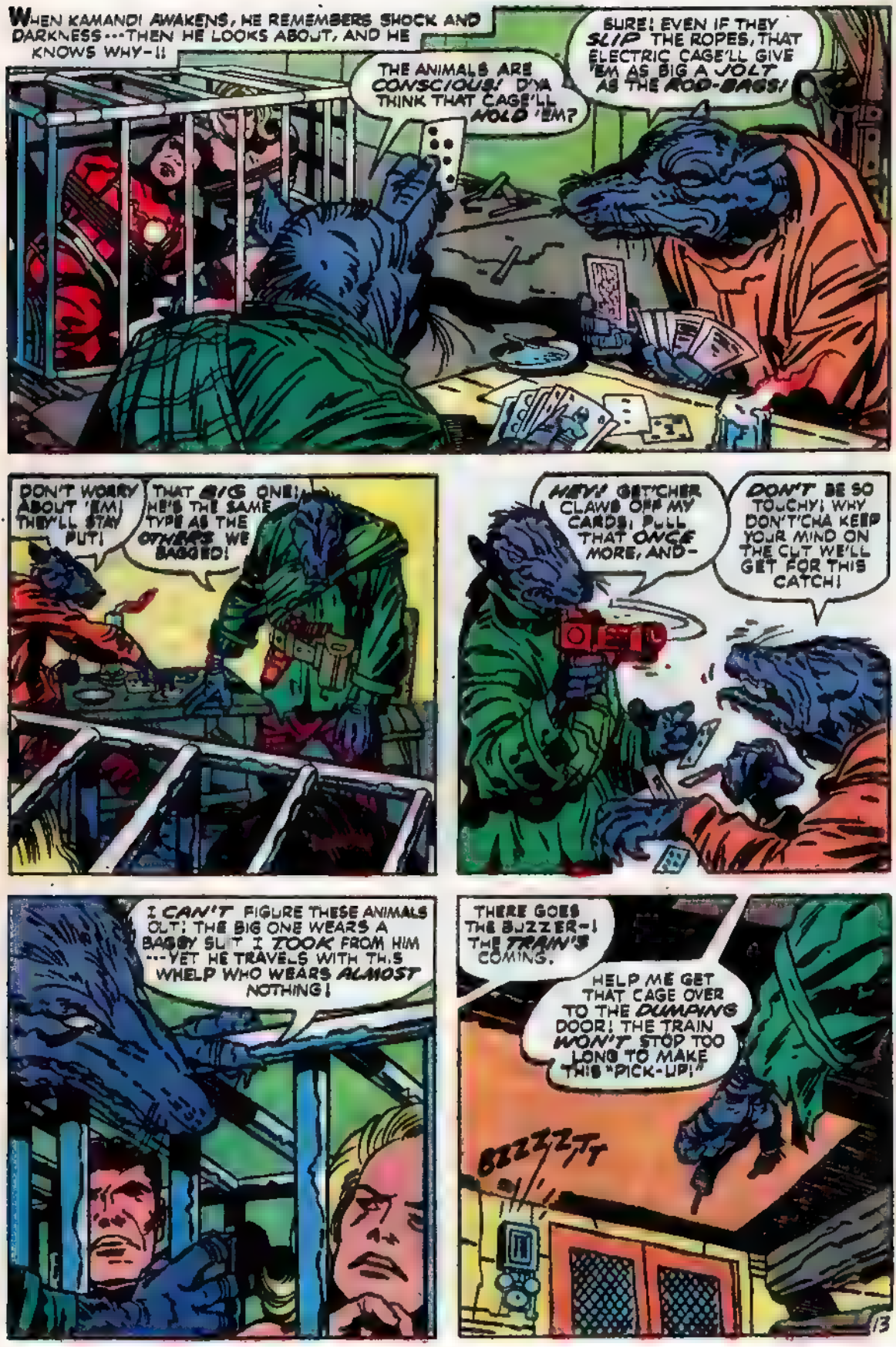

THIS IS THE END OF THE RIDE, KAMANDI! WE'LL GET OUT AND RECONNOITER!
I SUPPOSE IT'S A PLACE TO START! THE RATS MAY BE HOLDING YOUR FRIENDS IN SOME OTHER AREA!

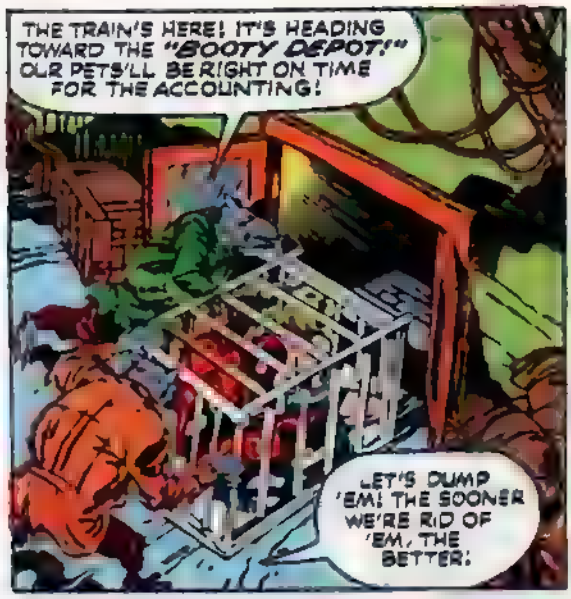

THERE MAY BE THOUSANDS OF TUNNELS! FINDING THEM MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE!!
TRUE! BUT THIS IS A MAIN ARTERY! WHOEVER TOOK MY FRIENDS MUST USE IT OFTEN!

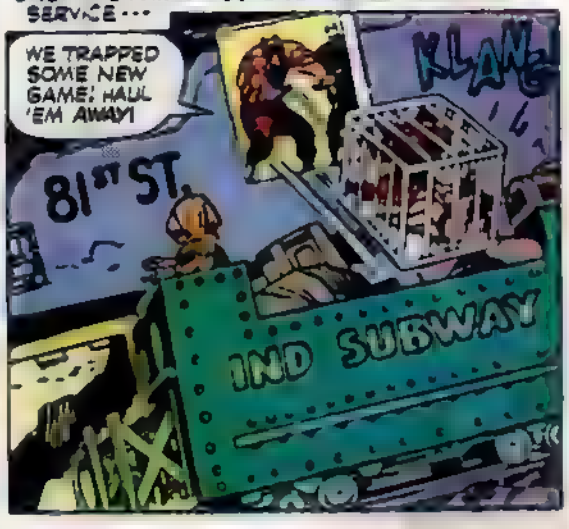
AS BEN STUDIES SOME NOTES GIVEN TO HIM BY DOCTOR CANUS, DANGER DESCENDS FROM THE SURROUNDING SHADOWS!

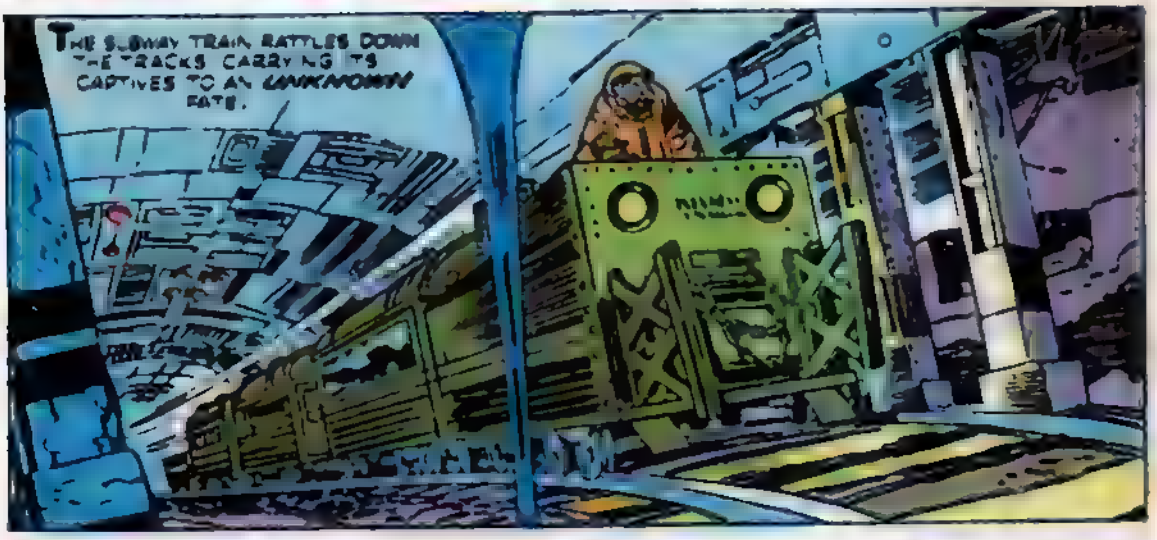


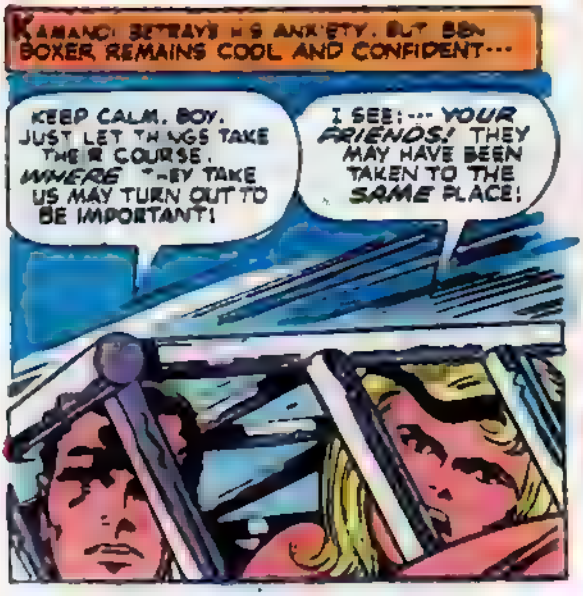


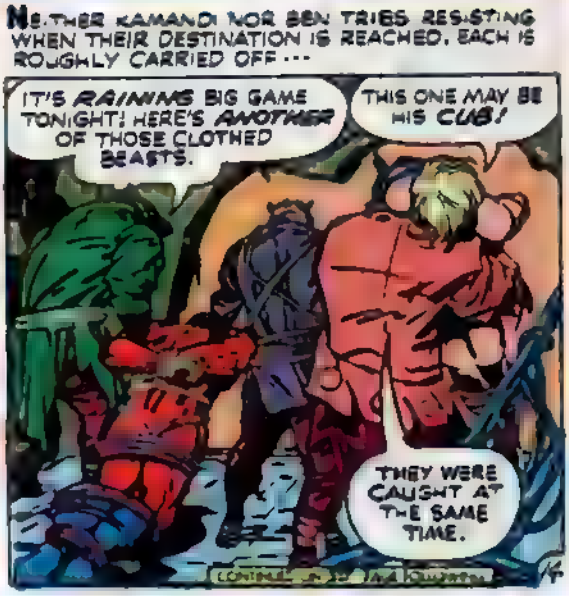

WHEN KAMANDI AWAKENS, HE REMEMBERS SHOCK AND DARKNESS---THEN HE LOOKS ABOUT, AND HE KNOWS WHY--!!
THE ANIMALS ARE CONSCIOUS! D'YA THINK THAT CAGE'LL HOLD 'EM?
SURE! EVEN IF THEY SLIP THE ROPES, THAT ELECTRIC CAGE'LL GIVE 'EM AS BIG A JOLT AS THE MOD-BAGS!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT 'EM! THEY'LL STAY PUT!
THAT BIG ONE! HE'S THE SAME TYPE AS THE OTHERS WE BAGGED!
HEY! GET'CHER CLAWS OFF MY CARDS! PULL THAT ONCE MORE, AND--
DON'T BE SO TOUCHY! WHY DON'T'CHA KEEP YOUR MIND ON THE CUT WE'LL GET FOR THIS CATCH!
I CAN'T FIGURE THESE ANIMALS OUT! THE BIG ONE WEARS A BAGGY SUIT I TOOK FROM HIM ---YET HE TRAVELS WITH THIS WHELP WHO WEARS ALMOST NOTHING!
THERE GOES THE BUZZER--! THE TRAIN'S COMING.
HELP ME GET THAT CAGE OVER TO THE DUMPING DOOR! THE TRAIN WON'T STOP TOO LONG TO MAKE THIS "PICK-UP!"
BZZZZT
13


THE TRAIN'S HERE! IT'S HEADING TOWARD THE "BOOTY DEPOT!" OUR PETS'LL BE RIGHT ON TIME FOR THE ACCOUNTING!
LET'S DUMP 'EM! THE SOONER WE'RE RID OF 'EM, THE BETTER!


WHAT ONCE USED TO BE A WELL-TRAVELED SUBWAY IS NOW A WORN, AGED NETWORK WITH ONLY THE PARTS ABOVE SEA LEVEL USED FOR SERVICE...
WE TRAPPED SOME NEW GAME! HAUL 'EM AWAY!
KLANG
81ST ST.
IND SUBWAY

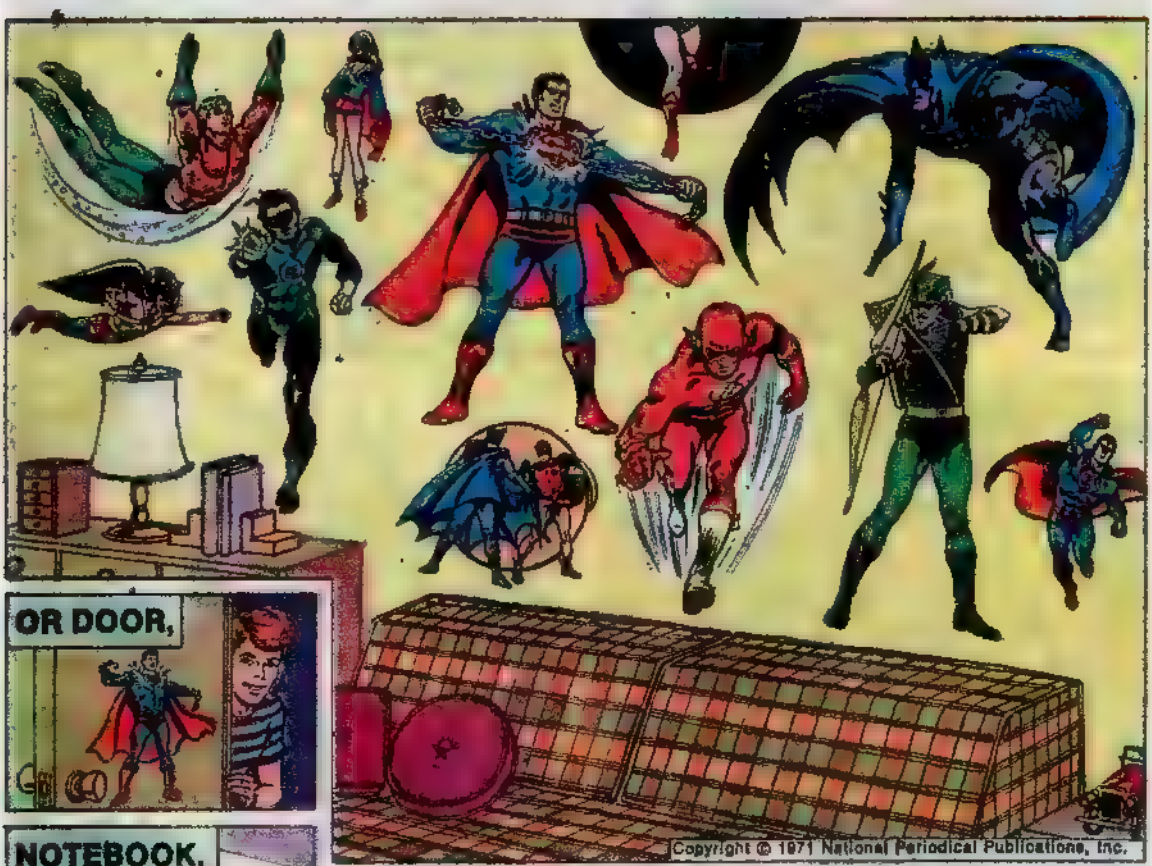

THE SUBWAY TRAIN RATTLES DOWN THE TRACKS CARRYING ITS CAPTIVES TO AN UNKNOWN FATE.


KAMANDI BETRAYS HIS ANXIETY. BUT BEN BOXER REMAINS COOL AND CONFIDENT...
KEEP CALM, BOY. JUST LET THINGS TAKE THEIR COURSE. WHERE THEY TAKE US MAY TURN OUT TO BE IMPORTANT!
I SEE:... YOUR FRIENDS! THEY MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE SAME PLACE!


NEITHER KAMANDI NOR BEN TRIES RESISTING WHEN THEIR DESTINATION IS REACHED. EACH IS ROUGHLY CARRIED OFF...
IT'S RAINING BIG GAME TONIGHT! HERE'S ANOTHER OF THOSE CLOTHED BEASTS.
THIS ONE MAY BE HIS CUB!
THEY WERE CAUGHT AT THE SAME TIME.

SUPER-HERO STICK-ONS!

Stick your favorites up against the wall...



Here are full-color "stick-on" pictures of Superman, Batman, Robin, Supergirl, Green Lantern, Green Arrow, Aquaman, Wonder Woman, Hawkman, Flash—available for the first time together in one package. They come on a mammoth 20" by 26" sheet, ready to peel off and stick on any flat surface. No adhesives, tacks, or tape needed.

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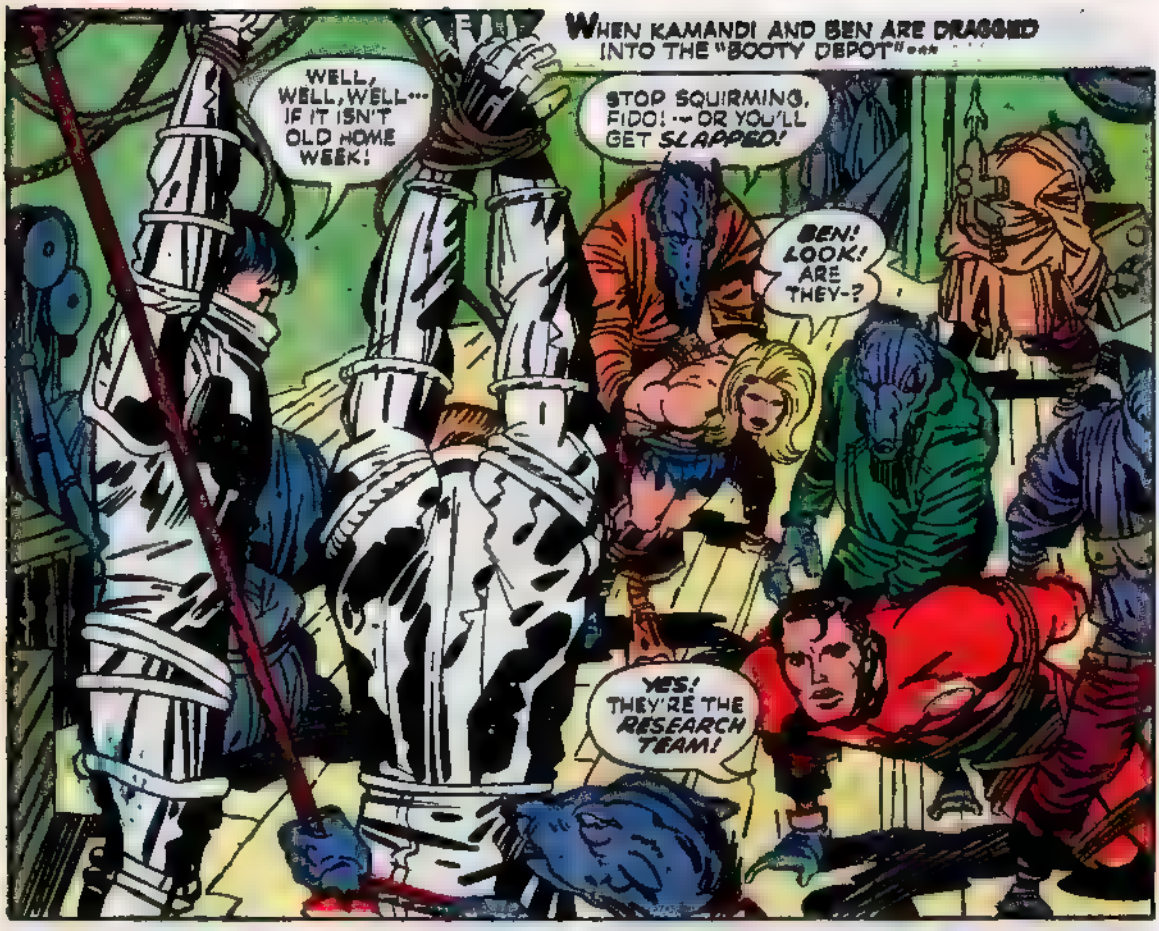
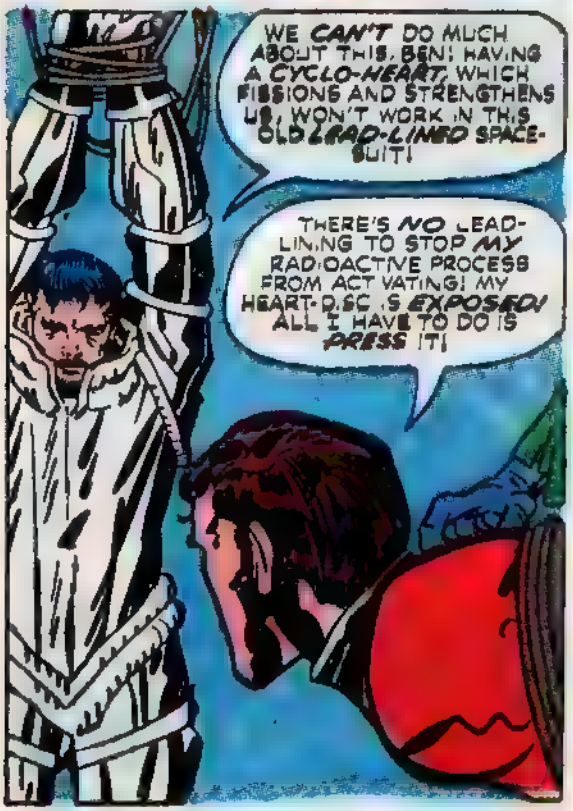
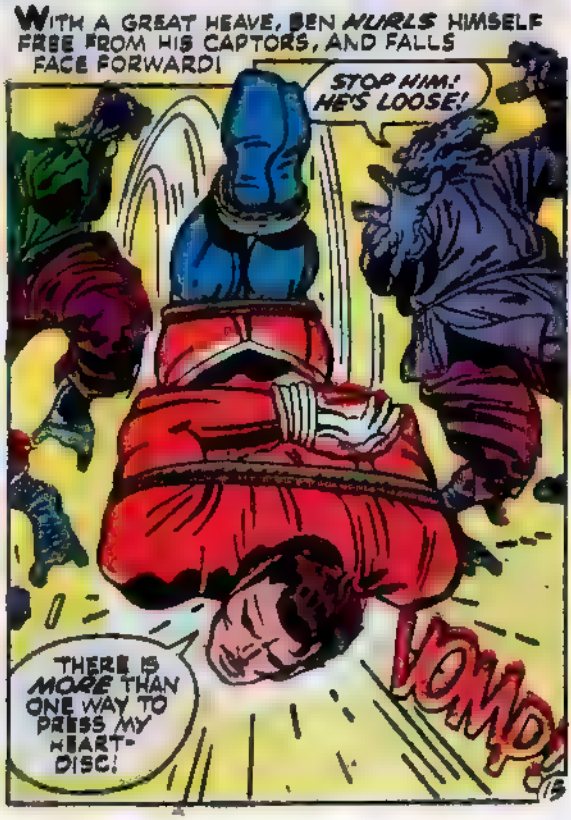
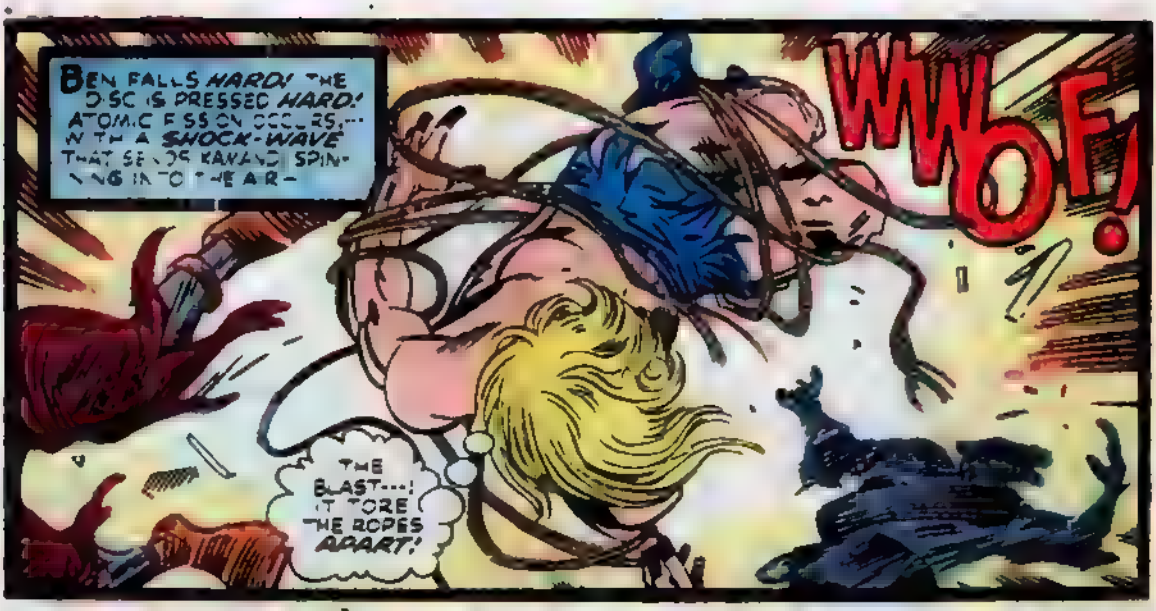
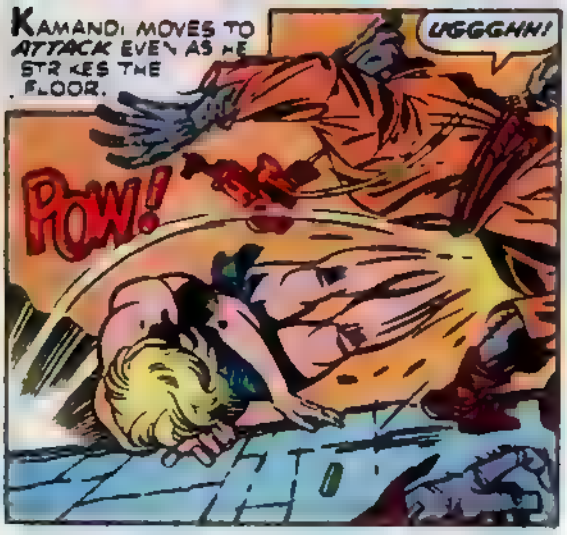
COMING IN DECEMBER...
DC'S CHRISTMAS GIFT
to You!
SHAZAM
IS COMING
DC
DC
SAY IT, BILLY BATSON, SAY THE MAGIC WORD...
SHAZAM!
...AND YOU BECOME...
BOOOOOM
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
C.C BECK 1972
WATCH OUT, SUPERMAN!
HERE COMES THE ORIGINAL CAPTAIN MARVEL

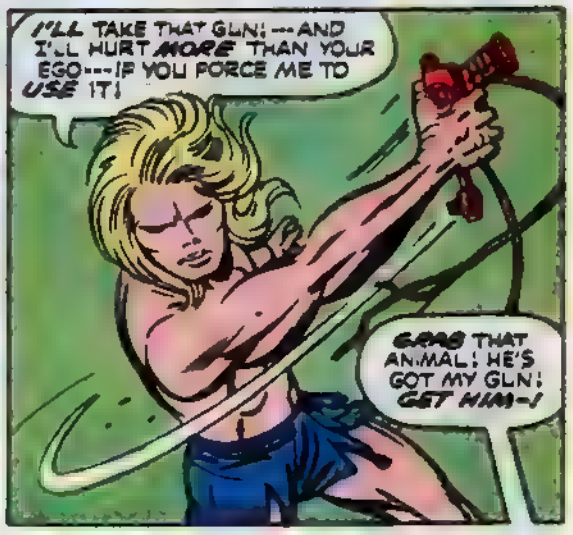

WHEN KAMANDI AND BEN ARE DRAGGED INTO THE "BOOTY DEPOT"...
WELL, WELL, WELL... IF IT ISN'T OLD HOME WEEK!
STOP SQUIRMING, FIDO! -- OR YOU'LL GET SLAPPED!
BEN! LOOK! ARE THEY-?
YES! THEY'RE THE RESEARCH TEAM!

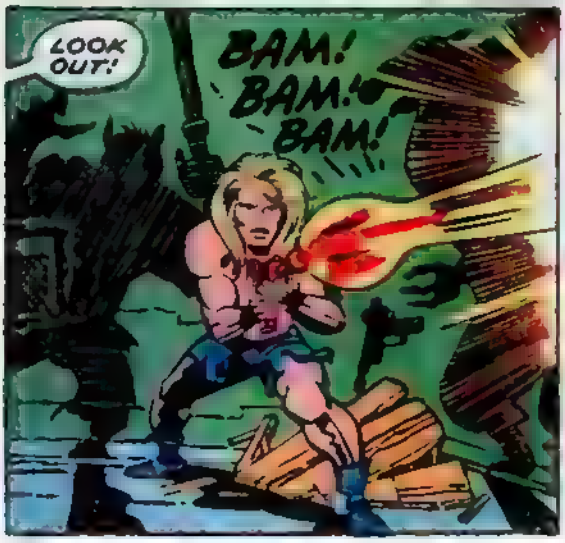

WE CAN'T DO MUCH ABOUT THIS, BEN! HAVING A CYCLO-HEART, WHICH FISSIONS AND STRENGTHENS US, WON'T WORK IN THIS OLD LEAD-LINED SPACE-SUIT!
THERE'S NO LEAD-LINING TO STOP MY RADIOACTIVE PROCESS FROM ACTIVATING! MY HEART-DISC IS EXPOSED! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PRESS IT!

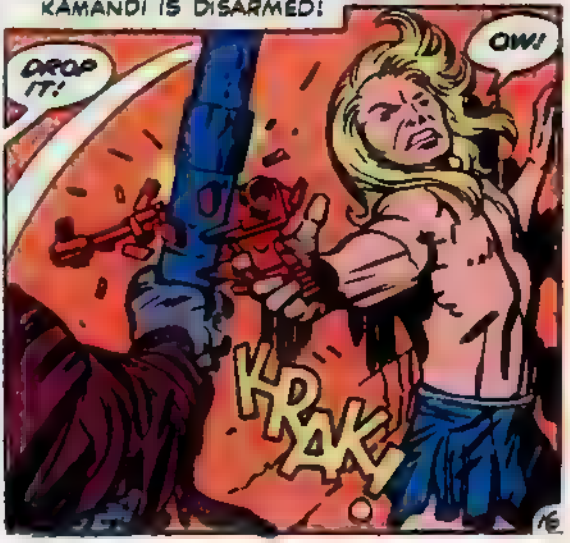

WITH A GREAT HEAVE, BEN HURLS HIMSELF FREE FROM HIS CAPTORS, AND FALLS FACE FORWARD!
STOP HIM! HE'S LOOSE!
THERE IS MORE THAN ONE WAY TO PRESS MY HEART-DISC!
KOMP!


BEN FALLS HARD! THE DISC IS PRESSED HARD! ATOMIC FISSION OCCURS... WITH A SHOCK-WAVE THAT SENDS KAMANDI SPINNING INTO THE AIR—
WWOF!
THE BLAST...! IT TORE THE ROPES APART!


KAMANDI MOVES TO ATTACK EVEN AS HE STRIKES THE FLOOR.
UGGGHH!
POW!


I'LL TAKE THAT GUN! --- AND I'LL HURT MORE THAN YOUR EGO --- IF YOU FORCE ME TO USE IT!
GRAB THAT ANIMAL! HE'S GOT MY GUN! GET HIM--!

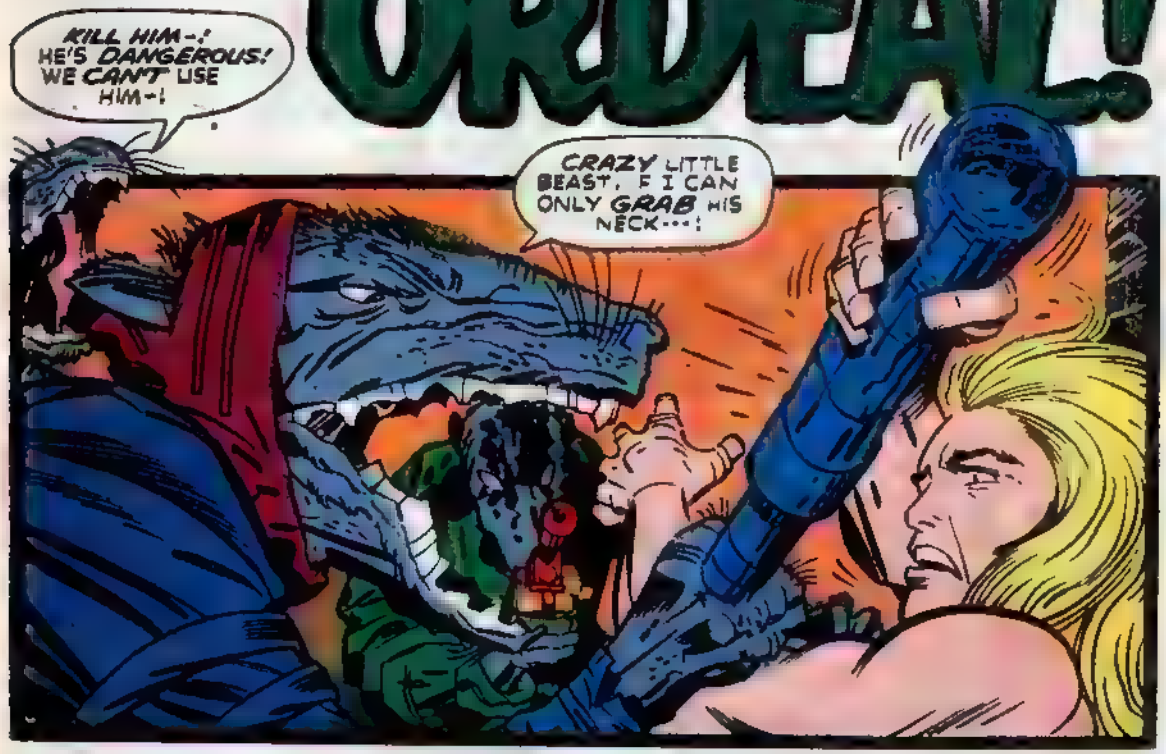

BUT THE RATS CLOSE IN ON KAMANDI AND THE ROOM ROCKS TO A SUCCESSION OF SHOTS.
LOOK OUT!
BAM! BAM! BAM!


THE SWIFTNESS AND SAVAGERY OF THEIR SPECIES STIRS THE RATS! IN ONE SMASHING BLOW, KAMANDI IS DISARMED!
DROP IT!
OW!
KRAK!

IN A NIGHTMARE *WORLD*— IN A NIGHTMARE *PLACE*— KAMANDI STRUGGLES WITH NIGHTMARE *CREATURES!* THEIR DEMON EYES BLAZE! AND THEIR SHARP, GNASHING TEETH LOOM LIKE JAGGED KNIVES IN THE GLOOM! IT TAKES *GRIT* AND *RAW* SURVIVAL INSTINCT TO OVERCOME THE FEAR THAT GRIPS KAMANDI! BUT THIS IS *FAR* FROM BEING THE END OF HIS---

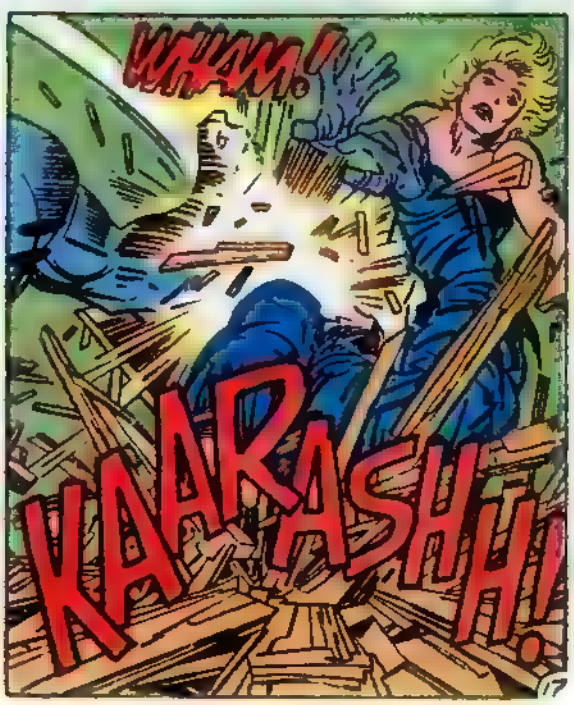
CHAPTER THREE-

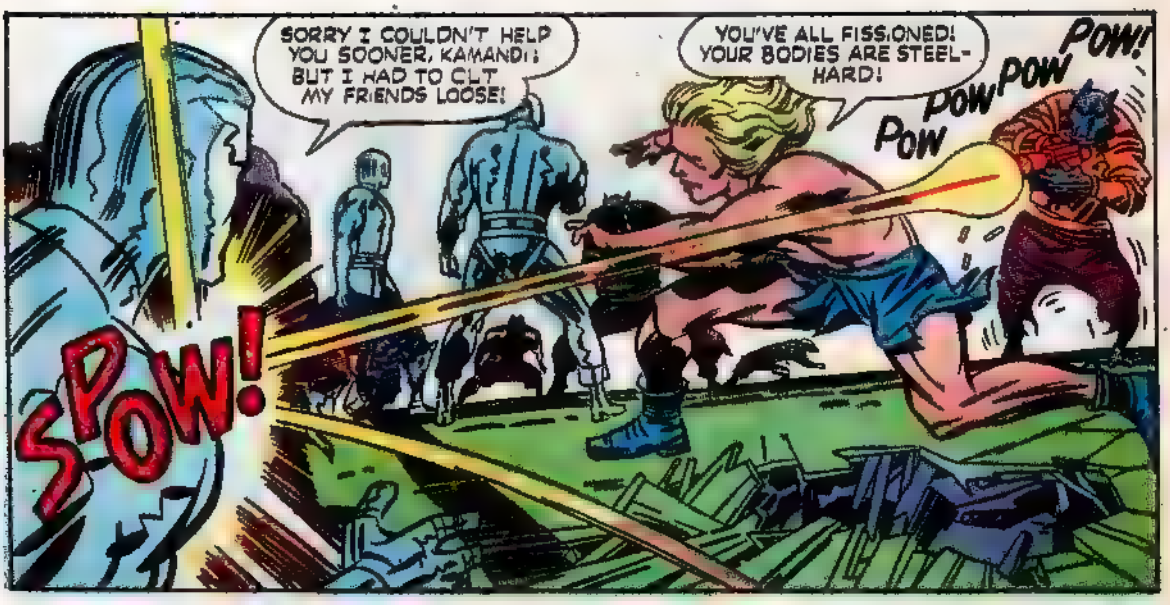
ORDEAL!

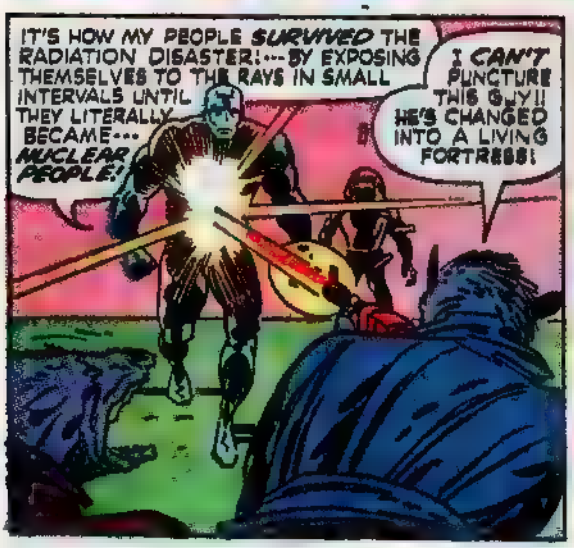


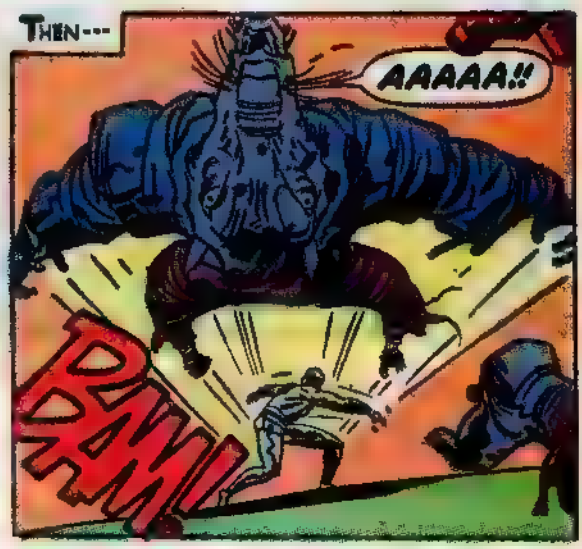
THE PRESSURE INCREASES--- FORCING KAMANDI BACK TO THE WALL. HE FEELS THE HOT, STEAMY BREATH ON HIS FACE!---THE THRUSTING CLAWS---!
N-NO! NO!
IT'LL ONLY TAKE ONE TWIST TO---

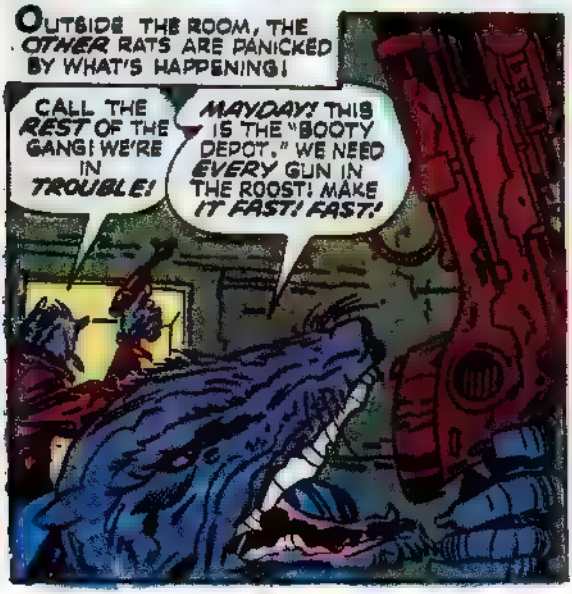
FROM SOMEWHERE, THE STEEL ARM OF BEN BOXER WHIPS OUT AND SMASHES THE RAT *THROUGH* THE FLOOR!




SORRY I COULDN'T HELP YOU SOONER, KAMANDI; BUT I HAD TO CUT MY FRIENDS LOOSE!
YOU'VE ALL FISSIONED! YOUR BODIES ARE STEEL-HARD!
POW!
POW
POW
POW
SPOW!

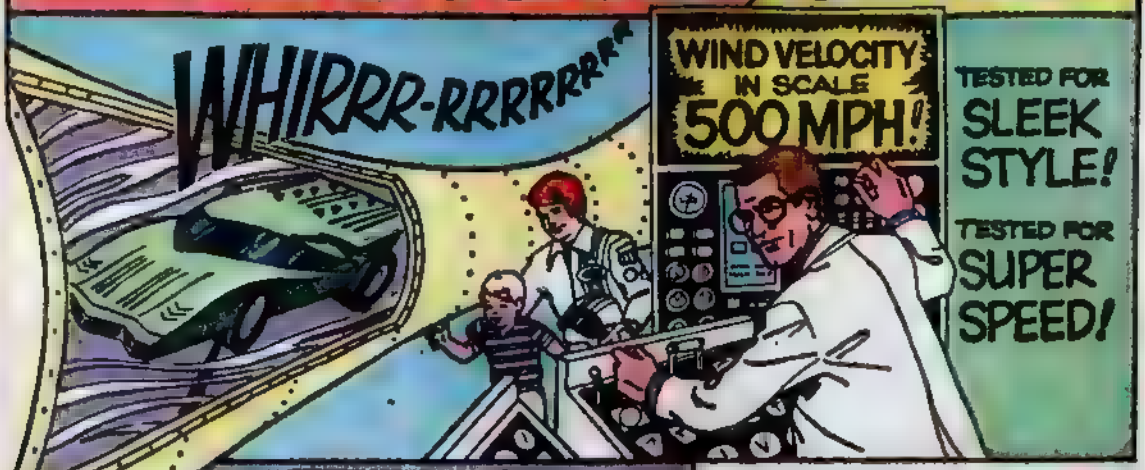

IT'S HOW MY PEOPLE SURVIVED THE RADIATION DISASTER!---BY EXPOSING THEMSELVES TO THE RAYS IN SMALL INTERVALS UNTIL THEY LITERALLY BECAME--- NUCLEAR PEOPLE!
I CAN'T PUNCTURE THIS GUY!! HE'S CHANGED INTO A LIVING FORTRESS!

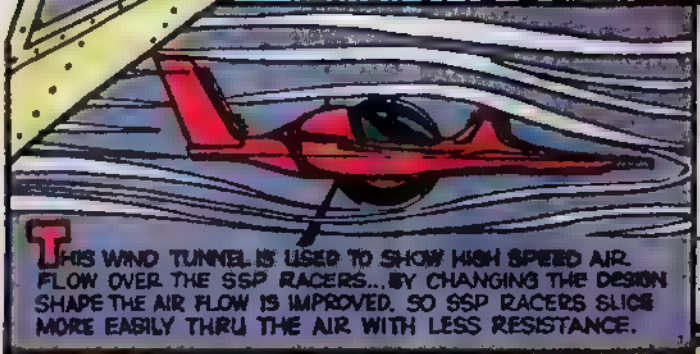

THEN---
AAAAA!!
BAM!


OUTSIDE THE ROOM, THE OTHER RATS ARE PANICKED BY WHAT'S HAPPENING!
CALL THE REST OF THE GANG! WE'RE IN TROUBLE!
MAYDAY! THIS IS THE "BOOTY DEPOT." WE NEED EVERY GUN IN THE ROOST! MAKE IT FAST! FAST!

FROM EVERY DISMAL CORNER OCCUPIED BY THE RAT GANG, THE VICIOUS DENIZENS OF THE RUINS COME POURING OUT!
CHECK YOUR WEAPONS! IT MUST BE A RAID!
CONTINUED ON PAGE FOLLOWING

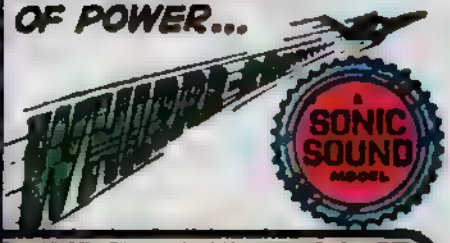
SSP WIND-TUNNEL TESTED!



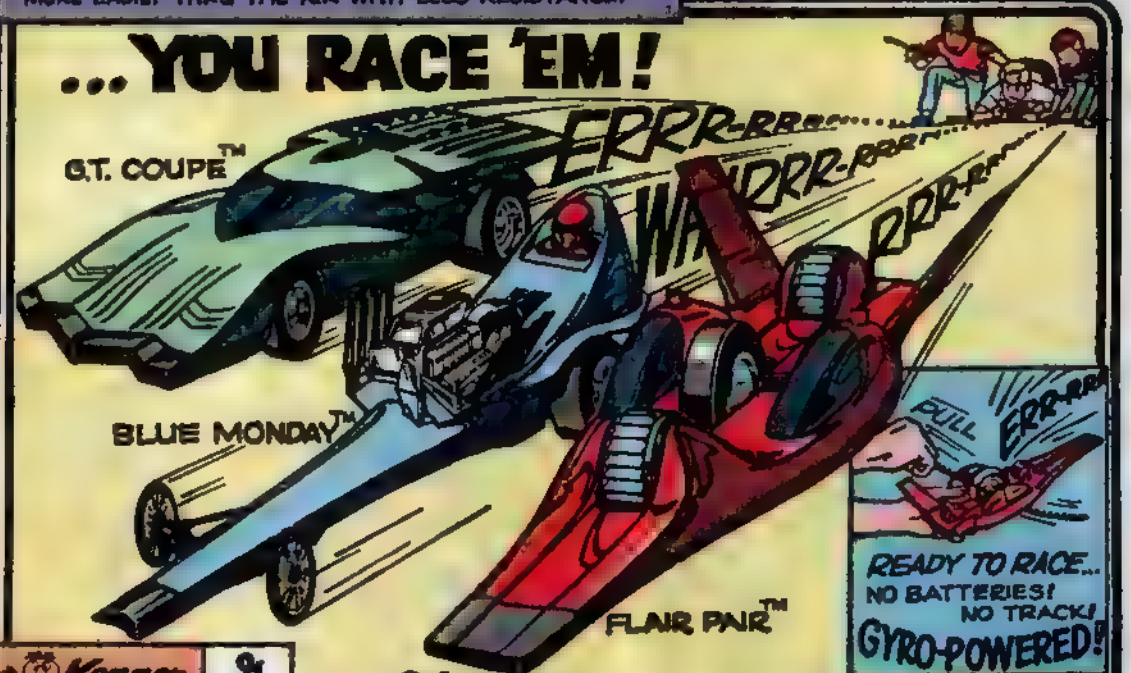


THIS WIND TUNNEL IS USED TO SHOW HIGH SPEED AIR FLOW OVER THE SSP RACERS... BY CHANGING THE DESIGN SHAPE THE AIR FLOW IS IMPROVED. SO SSP RACERS SLICE MORE EASILY THRU THE AIR WITH LESS RESISTANCE.

KENNER GIVES 'EM THE SHAPE AND HOWL OF POWER...



...YOU RACE 'EM!

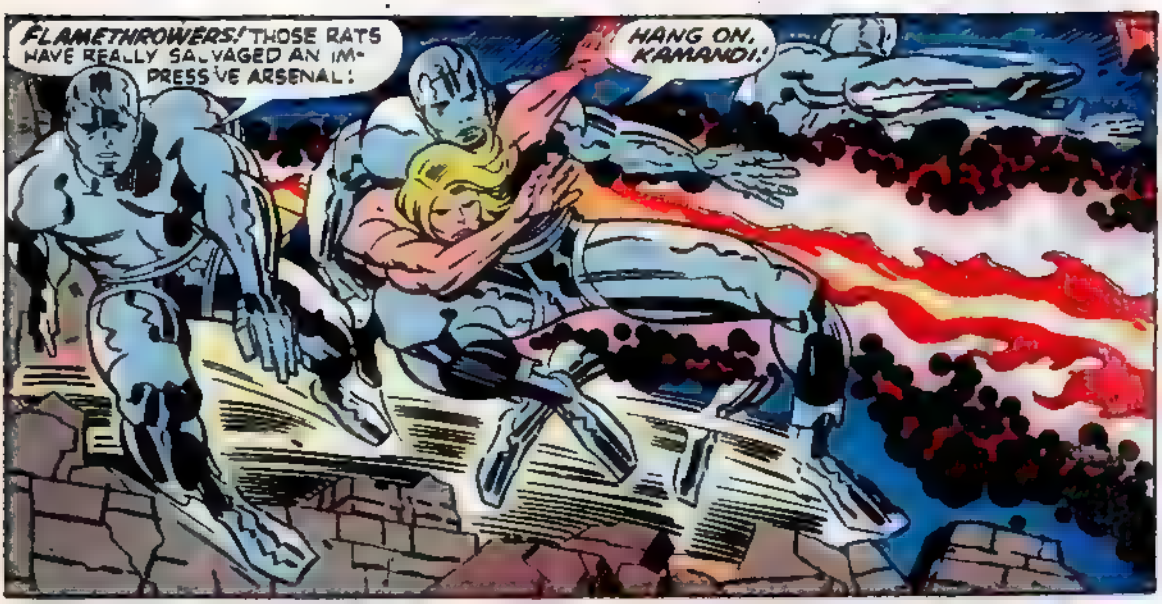


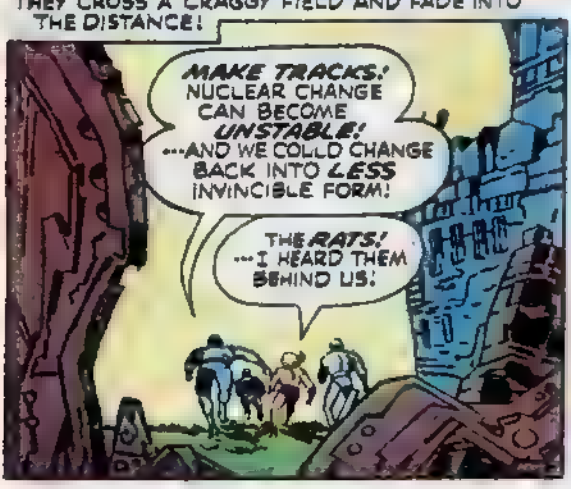
READY TO RACE... NO BATTERIES! NO TRACK! GYRO-POWERED!

Kenner of the FSS GROUP of General Mills

NOW! 24 SSP RACERS—COMPLETE, READY TO RACE!

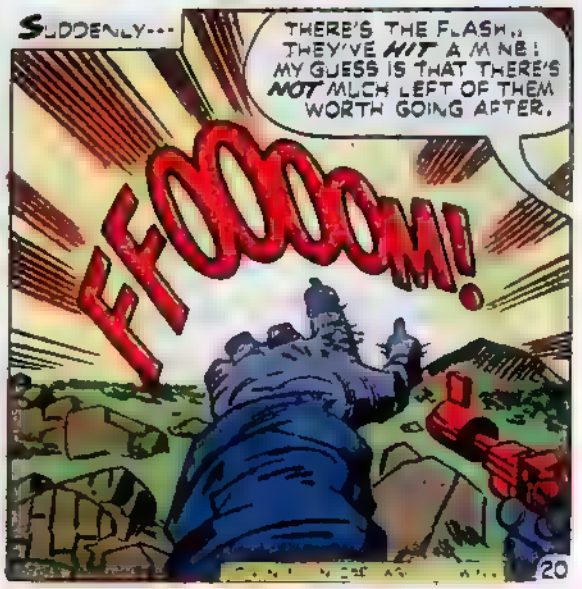
AT THAT MOMENT--KAMANDI AND HIS FELLOW PRISONERS HAVE BROKEN OUT OF THE "BOOTY DEPOT:"
WE'VE GONE ONWARD AND UPWARD, BUT IT'S STILL DRY! WE'RE STILL ABOVE WATER LEVEL!
I'D SAY WE'RE ON STREET LEVEL! THIS IS THE LOBBY OF AN OLD COMMERCIAL BUILDING!
THEN---FROM EVERY SHADOWED CORNER---
BLAST 'EM! DON'T LET 'EM ESCAPE ALIVE!
DOWN, KAMANDI! GRENADE!
BRRRP!
WHAM!
NICE CATCH, BEN!
SPOK
WE'RE NOT HERE TO FIGHT BATTLES! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
I'M FOR TAKING THE SHORT, QUICK ROUTE! STAND BACK!
HERE'S A HANDY EXIT---! EVEN IF I HAVE TO MAKE IT MYSELF! NOW, LET'S GO!
BRAAAAM!
THE GREAT POWER GAINED BY NUCLEAR CHANGE POURS INCREDIBLE STRENGTH INTO BEN BOXER!

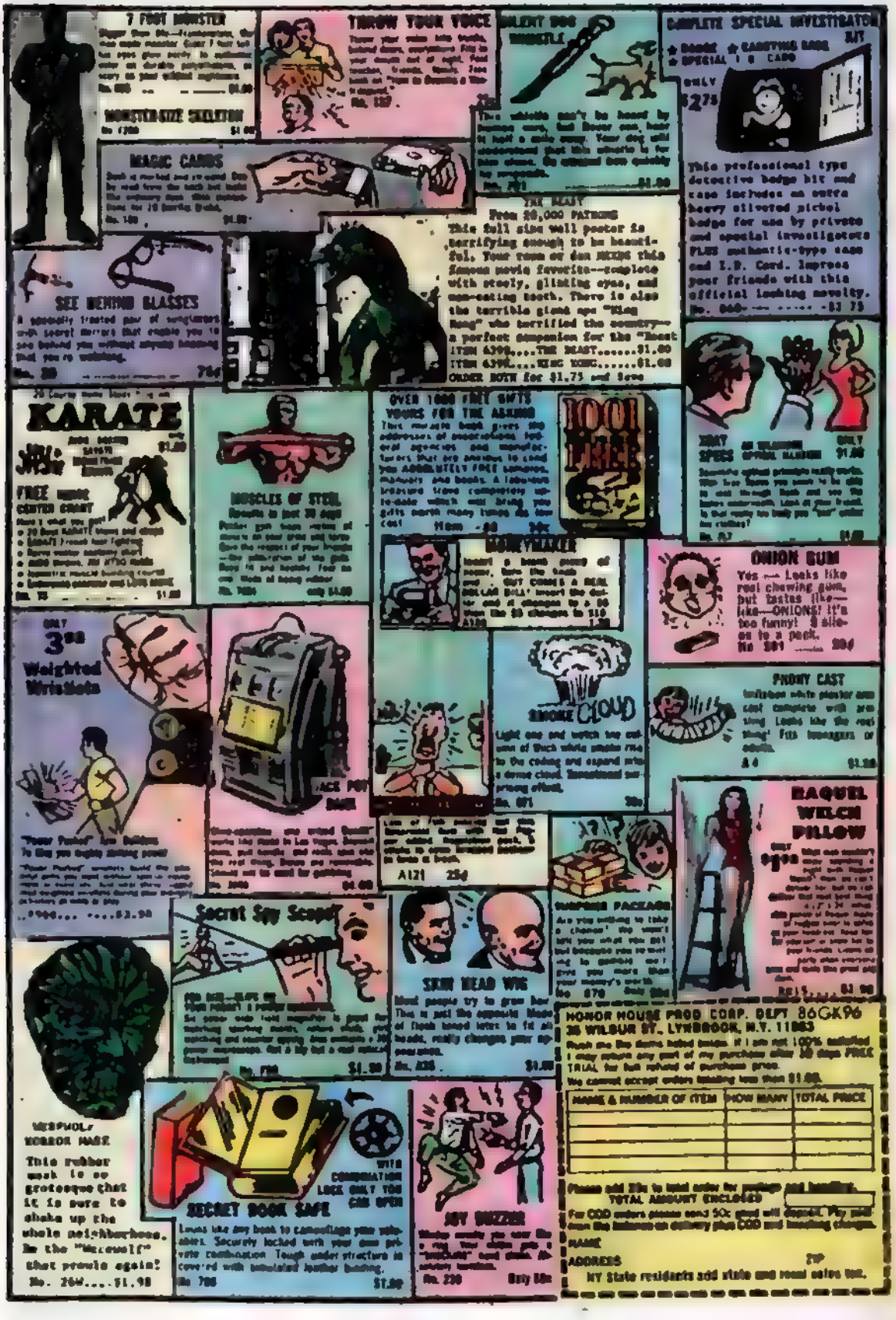

FLAMETHROWERS! THOSE RATS HAVE REALLY SALVAGED AN IMPRESSIVE ARSENAL!
HANG ON, KAMANDI!


THE FUGITIVES BOUND SWIFTLY INTO THE OPEN: THEY CROSS A CRAGGY FIELD AND FADE INTO THE DISTANCE!
MAKE TRACKS! NUCLEAR CHANGE CAN BECOME UNSTABLE! ...AND WE COULD CHANGE BACK INTO LESS INVINCIBLE FORM!
THE RATS! ...I HEARD THEM BEHIND US!

CEASE FIRE! WHY WASTE ALL THIS GOOD AMMO ON WILD ANIMALS? THEY'LL ONLY GET CAUGHT BY OUR OWN HUNTERS...AND WE'LL GET THEIR PELTS EVENTUALLY!

BESIDES, THAT AREA OUT THERE IS LITTERED WITH STRAY LAND MINES! --- POACHERS HAVE BEEN INFILTRATING HERE---TRYING TO CUT IN ON OUR GAME PRESERVE.
YOU'RE RIGHT! THE NEXT SOUND WE HEAR MAY BE THEM---GOING STRAIGHT UP!


SUDDENLY---
THERE'S THE FLASH... THEY'VE HIT A MINE! MY GUESS IS THAT THERE'S NOT MUCH LEFT OF THEM WORTH GOING AFTER.
FFOOOOM!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HOW MANY
TOTAL PRICE
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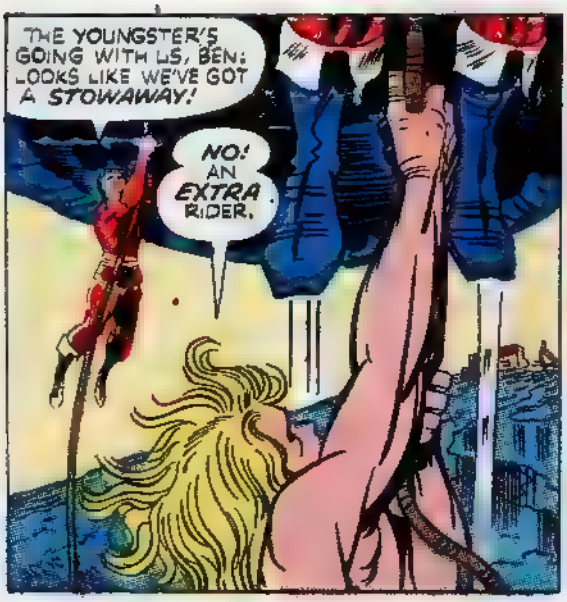
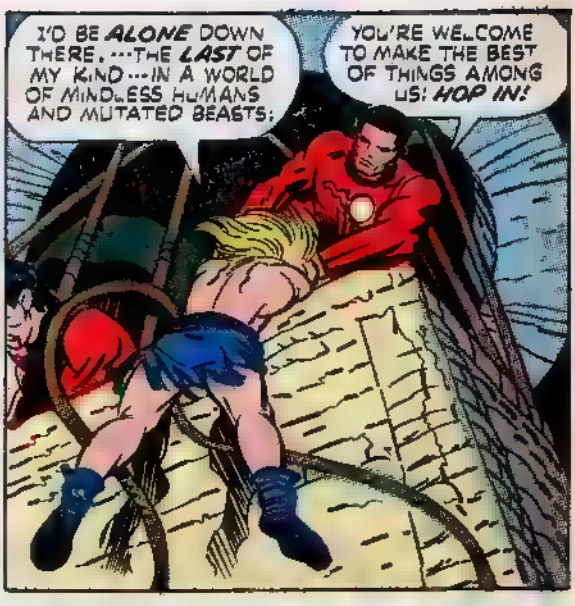
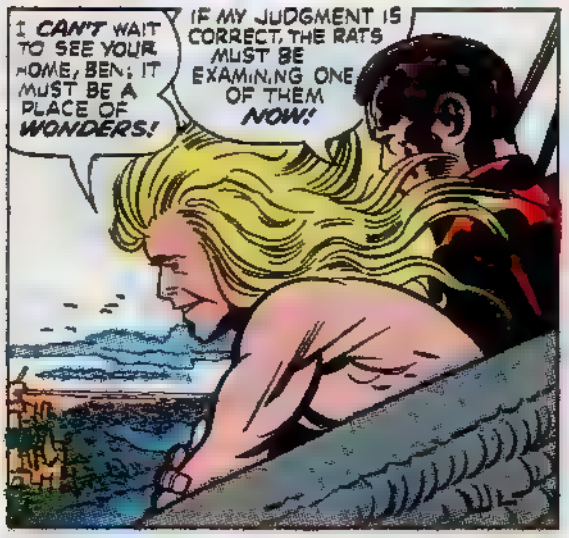
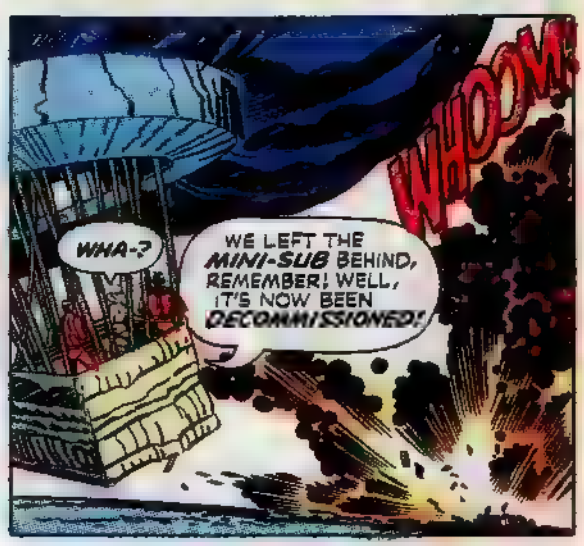
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED
NAME
ADDRESS
ZIP
NY State residents add state and local sales tax.

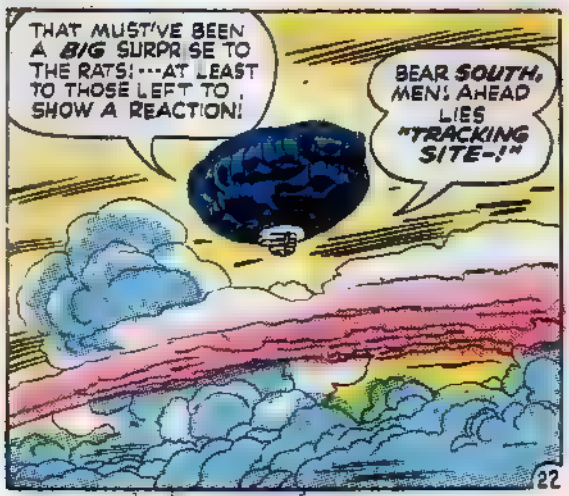
BUT THE ECHOING FLASH HAS BEEN DECEIVING---! BEN BOXER AND HIS FRIENDS HAVE MERELY PRESSED THEIR CYCLO-HEARTS TO RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL FORM...
CHANGE EFFECTED, BEN!
AND JOB DONE!
NATURE SURE HAS DONE A SPECTACULAR JOB ON YOUR KIND!
WE'RE GOING HOME NOW, KAMANDI, AND YOU'RE FREE TO DO AS YOU WISH!
W-WHERE IS YOUR HOME, BEN? IT MUST BE A FANTASTIC PLACE!
IT DIDN'T EXIST BEFORE OUR PEOPLE BUILT IT! BEFORE THE GREAT DISASTER, OUR FOREBEARS WERE PHYSICISTS AND ENGINEERS...
WE'RE STILL BUSY BUILDING THINGS!---LIKE THE AIR TRAVELER! HERE IT COMES!
IT MUST'VE BROKEN FREE OF THAT RUINED BRIDGE!
IT HAD TO. IT'S GOT MECHANISMS THAT RESPOND TO INVISIBLE RAYS WE SEND OUT FROM OUR BODIES!
IT'S SENDING DOWN CABLES---IS IT PROGRAMMED TO DO THAT?
WAIT-!
YES---AND TO TAKE US UP, TOO! WE'RE LEAVING, KAMANDI!
21




I'D BE ALONE DOWN THERE,...THE LAST OF MY KIND...IN A WORLD OF MINDLESS HUMANS AND MUTATED BEASTS!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO MAKE THE BEST OF THINGS AMONG US! HOP IN!


I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR HOME, BEN; IT MUST BE A PLACE OF WONDERS!
IF MY JUDGMENT IS CORRECT, THE RATS MUST BE EXAMINING ONE OF THEM NOW!




THAT MUST'VE BEEN A BIG SURPRISE TO THE RATS!...AT LEAST TO THOSE LEFT TO SHOW A REACTION!
BEAR SOUTH, MEN! AHEAD LIES "TRACKING SITE-!"
22

"TRACKING SITE!"...TOWNS HAVE HAD STRANGER NAMES! BUT, IN THE WORLD KAMANDI KNOWS, THIS TOWN WILL MORE THAN FULFILL THE NAME IT BEARS!.

THAT'S WHY YOU MUST LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE!!

IT WILL REVEAL AN ASTOUNDING CLUE TO THE BEGINNINGS OF KAMANDI'S STRANGE NEW WORLD!

AND FOR CONFLICT~ CHAKU, THE GOLIATH OF GORILLAS!!

FOR ADVENTURE~ THE ASTRO-SAGA!!

AND FOR SHEER FRIGHT...

THE THING THAT GREW ON THE MOON!

WHO KNOWS...
WHAT EVIL LURKS...
IN THE HEARTS OF MEN...?
The SHADOW KNOWS!
HA HA HA
HA HA
COMING SOON! WATCH FOR IT!

"THE GREAT EARTH CATACLYSM SYNDROME!"

X-356

Remember the "Big Bang" theory? Well, the scientists who believe in it regard it as a natural process in the creation of our universe. The required elements contract, fission and WHAM! Molten substance is spewed all over space, forms some sort of orbital balance and you've got a firmament filled with cosmic bodies in an expanding harmonious design.

This is one of many speculations which continually plague our modern Newtons and Galileos, who with every technical advance, strive to bring the "true" picture into sharper focus. However, the key words in every theory seem to be "natural process." It's this intriguing thought which constitutes the fabric, woven on a much smaller scale, concerning the supposed periodic spasm experienced by our very own planet.

Does the Earth flip its lid every ten thousand years or thereabouts? Is planetary cataclysm part of some kind of continual "adjustment" Earth must make in its endless swing around the sun? Based on evidence gathered by authoritative representatives of our varied sciences, we could be due for another upheaval, the latest of a great cycle of upheavals which, it is speculated, our planet is prone to.

If this is true, it seems to me that the premise of "Kamandi" may not be that much of a far-out nail to hang one's hat on. All signs point to natural disaster as being an ever-present facet of darkness in the history of man.

How many New Yorks and Chicagos have gone down the drain in the remote and unrecorded past? How many times has man been "downed" by some great jolt, made his comeback—and been "put down" again?

It would indeed be interesting—and frightening if the cataclysm theory was suddenly to attain an incontestable validity. The future would begin to shape itself into a meaningful test of man's imagination and courage. He would try to pinpoint the "moment." And, perhaps, sections of humanity would prepare for it in ways unique to their own regional life style and environment.

There may be other consequences, too. Man, in his feverish attempt to save man, may overlook nature's regard for the other species. If there've been previous "jolts", the lesser beasts have survived them, too.

All life on Earth is subject to the rumbles and rockings of the parent structure which has no control over the disastrous effects of its stresses and strains on whatever thrives on its surface. The ambitions and dreams of men are irrelevant to this planetary giant which pursues its own way in its own manner. Man is its child, tenant and still, to this date, its captive. Although his rockets have begun to fly from the Earth's surface, man as a species is in no position, as yet, to feel secure from his planet's destructive aches and pains.

Recorded history, as we know it, is littered with debris of monuments once thought to be miracles of invulnerability. But they've been buried by common mud. The sea hides them in numbers from our eyes. And others stand tilted and broken where tourists gather round them like flies. Somewhere, at sometime, the Earth "burped" and put man in his place.

We weren't there. It wasn't our experience. The evidence must mount still further before we pause from doing our thing and give serious thought to what Mother Earth is really like.

How will the next ball game be played should another big shakeup strike us? Will it end with the same old score? Will man win the big series again? Will the other species wait for the next try at the plate? Suppose they don't? Suppose they get the time to practice man's game and sharpen up? Interesting thought, eh?

At present the horizon is empty of any serious competition to man's mastery of all he surveys. Tomorrow, the big league could be crowded with new teams—aggressive and eager to send everyone else to the showers. Who the victor may be in such an event may matter only to us. The point is that all it would take is one good jolt from Mother Earth to liven things up in the ball park.

In the world of Kamandi, The Last Boy On Earth, these questions find answers. What could happen—happens! And the reader gets a great seat to what could be the wildest world series ever. Man must fight to regain his rightful place. But he must have all the stuff in him that made him top dog in the first place.

Thank you,
Jack Kirby

Your letters will be appreciated.
Write to
"Kamandi"
Box 336
Newbury Pk., Calif. 91320.

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2 GIANT BATTLEFIELDS a total size of 3 square feet. (Six Islands in the Pacific Ocean beautifully colored.)
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375 RED MARKERS—enough to record the massive bombings and shellings.
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There is no imagination necessary here!! You get the equipment, the battlefield and the rules on how to Locate, Occupy and Destroy the enemy. This is not just another juvenile game, it is actually played and tremendously enjoyed by over 200,000 people including members of our real Armed Forces.
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★ 64 COMBAT MEN*
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Never finished high school?

Now you can get a diploma without going back

You already know why it's important to have a high school education. You've probably learned the hard way that it can be pretty difficult to get the kind of job you want without one. No matter how hard you're willing to work.

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*City*_____

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W24

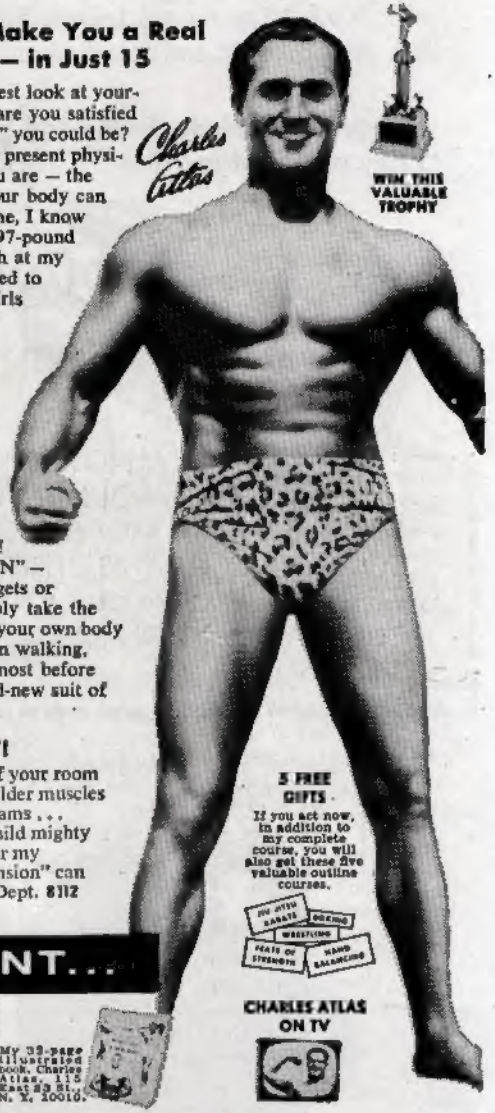
THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF 'MAC'

HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!
THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH
LISTEN HERE, I'D SMASH YOUR FACE — ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!
THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY
OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!
DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!
BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!
THERE'S THAT BIG STIFF AGAIN, SHOWING OFF IN FRONT OF GRACE AND THE CROWD. WELL IT'S MY TURN THIS TIME!
WHAM! - NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY!
OH, MAC! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!
HA HA

CHARLES ATLAS, World's No. 1 Body Builder, says:

Don't Be Half A Man!

Let ME SHOW How I Can Make You a Real HE-MAN From Head to Toe — in Just 15 Minutes a Day! Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a real HE-MAN! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.



HOW I CHANGED FROM A "MOUSE" TO A MAN!

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn *you*, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a real HE-MAN from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

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Just 15 minutes each day in the privacy of your room is all it takes to make your chest and shoulder muscles swell so big they almost split your coat seams . . . turn your fists into sledge-hammers . . . build mighty legs that never tire! Mail coupon today for my famous book showing how "Dynamic-Tension" can give *you* a Body by Atlas. Charles Atlas, Dept. 8112 115 E. 23 St., New York, N. Y. 10010.

DO YOU WANT...

A DEEP CHEST? ... can add SOLID INCHES of powerful muscle to your chest — make you look and feel like a dynamo.

BIG ARM MUSCLES? You'll see and feel your arm muscles BULGE out with super power and energy.

BROAD SHOULDERS? "Dynamic-Tension" will broaden your shoulders. You'll see and feel RE-BUILTS IN 7 DAYS!

TIRELESS LEGS? I make your legs strong and powerful with the tireless drive of a long distance runner.

MORE WEIGHT? You'll put on pounds in the right places. "Dynamic-Tension" rebuilds you inside and out.

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- ☐ BIG ARM MUSCLES
- ☐ BROAD BACK & SHOULDERS
- ☐ TIRELESS LEGS
- ☐ MORE WEIGHT
- ☐ MAGNETIC PERSONALITY

CHARLES ATLAS
Dept. 8112 115 E. 23 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10010

I enclose 10¢. Show me how "Dynamic-Tension" can make me a new man. Send your famous 32-page book, full of pictures, valuable advice. No obligation.

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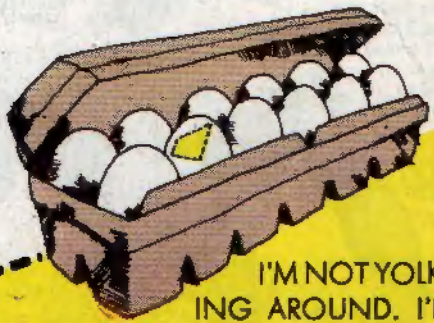
(Place this reminder in the egg tray of the refrigerator.)



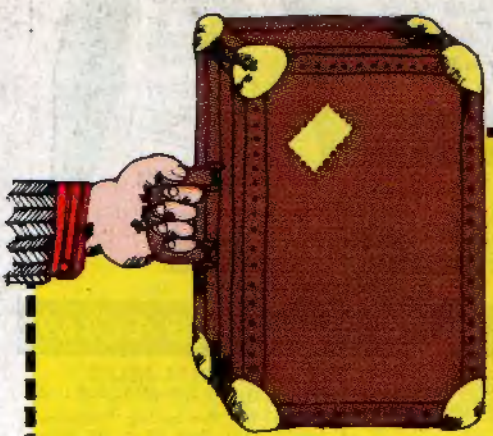
I'M NOT YOLKING AROUND. I'D REALLY EAT UP A MODEL MOTORING A|FX SET THIS CHRISTMAS. I'LL ALSO EAT UP ANYTHING YOU PUT ON MY PLATE UNTIL THEN.

(Place this reminder under the windshield wiper of dad's car.)

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS ARE THE FASTEST CARS YOU CAN DRIVE WITHOUT A LICENSE. HINT: THEY BEGIN WITH AN 'A', HAVE AN 'F' IN THE MIDDLE AND END WITH AN 'X'.

P.S. THEY'RE MADE BY THE MODEL MOTORING DIVISION OF AURORA.

(Place this reminder on your father's brief case)



TO BE BRIEF, AN A|FX RACING SET IS WHAT I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS.

(Place this reminder on your father's shaving mirror)

THERE WILL BE SOME PRETTY CLOSE SHAVES WHEN YOU AND YOUR SON ARE RACING A|FX CARS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

If you want more reminders, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to A|FX, Aurora Products Corporation, 44 Cherry Valley Road, West Hempstead, New York 11552.

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